

Hafa Adai!

Joseph Crisostomo appeals, seeks re-trial. **PAGE 3**
Court orders Mathewson's trial heard on Rota. **PAGE 5**

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75¢

Senate passes sweeping gun laws

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» **Bill now
head to
Torres'
desk for
action**

New gun laws to protect the CNMI from the effects of handguns has made its way out of the Legislature after the Senate passed a final version of the bill yesterday, sending it over to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' desk for action.

The new gun laws were proposed in the wake of a federal court ruling to strike down parts of the CNMI's gun laws, effectively allowing for the permit of handguns in the CNMI for the first time, and were crafted by the CNMI Of-

fice of the Attorney General.

The new gun measures—technically called Senate Bill 19-94, SD1, HD10—defines, among many other provisions, the conditions that an indi-

**See SENATE
on Page 4**

CUC preparing action plan for water issues

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is preparing an action plan to assess and address the water needs of Saipan and to bring 24-hour water service to all areas.

At least three members of the CUC board held an operations meeting with CUC's water division to gather information and come up with an

See CUC on Page 4

LEGO ROBOTICS

Miles Timmons, front, along with Rannon Palacios and Sion Park are greeted by their fellow students at the Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School in yesterday's send-off ceremony. The three will be competing as a team in the 10th Annual North Pacific Regional Robotics Challenge set for this weekend in Walla Walla, Washington.

JON PEREZ

See story on Page 2

Hocog heads task force on harbor projects

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog said yesterday that he and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres have formed a task force to ensure that the feasibility study for the Tinian and

Rota harbor gets all the data that the U.S. Army Corps needs to ascertain the completion of these studies.

For its meeting Tuesday, Hocog said they involved



Hocog

members of the U.S. Coast Guard, all local permitting agencies, the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the CNMI Historic Preservation Office, the Depart-

ment of Public Lands.

"This is just to get some data for the inquiries that need to be submitted," Hocog said.

"We are trying to beat the time deadline of May 1. We are having a meeting again on

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INSIDE



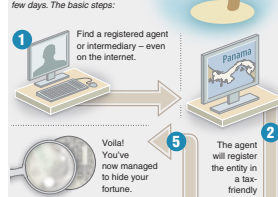
LOCAL

The Joeten-Dadai Charitable Foundation has teamed up once again with Marianas High School to form the team called the Joeten Dolphins for the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer.

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Setting up an offshore company

Setting up an offshore company or trust can take as little as a few days. The basic steps:



BUSINESS

Britain's former world dominance has left it with a string of tiny territories scattered around the globe, and many of them have become hubs for hiding money.

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LIFE & STYLE

A cliffhanger ending its sixth season fascinated more than 14 million viewers of "The Walking Dead."

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Local

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-

DIZON

frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

10 arrested for selling alcohol to minors

Ten individuals were jailed for selling alcoholic beverages to minors as their businesses face possible license revocation while two other establishments were deemed non-compliant under tobacco control laws.

The Department of Public Safety and Department of Commerce's Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control conducted a two-day joint operation in 80 randomly selected establishments last March 28 and 29 where 12 establishments failed the alcohol compliance checks.

As a result, the store cashiers or persons responsible for the illegal sales of alcohol to minors were subsequently booked and detained at the Department of Corrections.

ABTC will be pursuing administrative sanctions against the storeowners where the violations occurred and each of the establishments will be facing \$1,000 in fines.

"These violations pose a major concern in our community, and most importantly, the safety and well-being of our youth. What is most disturbing is the fact that the individuals who were arrested have actu-

ally taken the training provided by the ABTC division with respect to responsible alcohol and tobacco sales and services," Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman said.

The training is tailored to certify the storeowners including their employees in ensuring that the mandatory I.D. card requirement is strictly enforced and to ensure that sales to minors do not occur.

"However, it appears that there exists a wanton disregard of law with respect to those individuals involved in the illegal sales, who now face the consequences," Rabauliman said.

"I want to make it seriously clear that this type of behavior and violations from the licensed establishments will not be tolerated and will not go unpunished. Therefore, I am exercising my authority, in the public's best interest and in accordance with Title 4 CMC § 5597, to revoke the licenses from those establishments involved in the illegal

» **14 establishments found to be non-compliant with alcohol and tobacco laws**

sales on top of instituting the \$1,000 fine," he added.

Rabauliman added that it is their duty to safeguard the youth from

these practices.

"I am not making this decision to hurt these businesses.

However, as the secretary of Commerce, part of my duty and the administration's objective is to ensure that are youth are safeguarded from harm that may be caused from unscrupulous business practices," Rabauliman added.

According to Rabauliman, the establishment may appeal the decision through a request for an administrative hearing that is accorded under the Ad-

ministrative Procedures Act in the event a decision is made to automatically revoke a license.

"It is imperative that a strong message must be sent to ensure that we are serious with our concerted efforts in keeping our community and youth safe. If it leads to revoking their license for one year, perhaps the message will instill across the board that

underage drinking continues to be a serious problem in our society and a part of the source of this problem is from retail establishments that are illegally allowing such sales to minors," ABTC director David R. Maratita said.

ABTC said it is doing everything within its authority to keep the licensed establishments under compliance with the law.

There are 452 licensed establishments to sell alcoholic beverages with ABTC having

See MINORS on Page 4

SDA School gives Lego robotics team warm sendoff

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Students, faculty, and staff of the Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School gave its Lego robotics team a warm send-off yesterday wishing them good luck and to represent the CNMI well. The team will be competing in the 10th Annual North Pacific Regional Robotics Challenge in Walla Walla, Washington.

Competition—sponsored by the Adventist Robotics League and Walla Walla University's Edward F. Cross School of Engineering and held in cooperation with the First Lego League and the Junior FLL—is set on

April 10, Sunday, at the Walla Walla Valley Academy in Collece Place.

Sixth grader Rannon Palacios and fifth graders Sion Park and Miles Timmons are the students who are traveling to Washington along with coach Melanie Strout. Cory Lee and Harvey Zhang are the other members of the team.

Palacios, Park, Timmons, and Zhang made a brief presentation of what they researched and prepared about this year's theme or mission of recycling and reduction of trash. The presentation is what they will show the judges in the competition.

Delegate Gregorio "Kilili"

C. Sablan (Ind-MP) also gave the team pins that have the CNMI and U.S. flags.

Strout, who previously coached another Adventist-run school in Alaska that won the ARL nationals, said that although this would be the first time that Saipan's SDA school will be competing, the experience of building the robot from scratch would help them develop their analytical thinking skills and at the same time appreciate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Every year judges and organizers give different topics and for this year it's about trash and debris, where the students

will also be making a presentation on their research of turning waste to

The mission is all about recycling, the reuse and reduction of trash. Teams earn points in completing each mission and get deductions for failing to accomplish it.

The annual robotics challenge gathers all the Adventist schools in North America where the CNMI is part of the region. The Saipan SDA team will be competing against other students from the fourth to eighth grades.

The ARL was formed in 2002 to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics to students.

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HOCOG

From Page 1

the [April] 19” on the data that needs to be submitted to the Army Corps.

Hocog described some of the data as “what is needed” when construction begins, referring to coastal resources, and public lands information.

“Or what is it that they want to find out from Public Lands about the quarry that are on island, and find out if we have enough in the event that construction is going to proceed,” he added.

Hocog said the total project for the feasibility study is roughly \$3 million and for Rota about \$2.96 million.

He added that the lo-

cal share for Rota would be \$969,000 for Rota, and \$970,000 for Tinian.

Last November, then acting governor Ralph DLG Torres identified the local funds to match federal dollars to conduct feasibility studies for repair and improvements to the Tinian and Rota harbors. Some \$552,000 from the Commonwealth Ports Authority and the administrative accounts of Torres’ office and late governor Eloy S. Inos’ office was identified for this purpose. The local match to federal fiscal years 2015 and 2016 dollars allowed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to move ahead with the study.

Derek Chow, Army Corps chief of the Civil and Public Works Branch, has said that

the reported large number of close-outs—hazardous wave conditions that prevent barges from entering the Rota harbor—calls for additional upgrades. Tinian harbor’s breakwater—a sheet piled with rubble around it—he has said, was “very deteriorated and provides minimal protection” for vessels.

The harbor feasibility study is a three-year study with a total cost to the CNMI government of about \$1 million. This amount can be broken up into annual increments.

Last September, the local administration signed an agreement with the Army Corps on the feasibility, design, and construction phases of the project. Congressional authorization is needed to

get from the feasibility to the construction phases.

The feasibility study refers to the engineering and conceptual design for repairs.

MINORS

From Page 2

certified over 600 individuals who underwent the Responsible Alcohol and Tobacco Sales and Services Training Program.

Over the weekend, 182 random compliance checks were conducted on a separate joint operation on tobacco control laws through the SYNAR regulations where two establishments were found to be non-compliant.

“Although there were no arrests made during the joint to-

This will include cost estimates, economic analysis, environmental studies and analysis, and potential environmental impact statement.

bacco enforcement operation, the establishments involved with the illegal sales of tobacco products to minors also faced consequences in losing their license,” Maratita added.

The SYNAR regulations are administered by the Community Guidance Center under the auspices of the Chief Executive of the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation through collaborative enforcement efforts with DPS and Commerce’s ABTC.

“This is a testament to the great partnership that has been forged throughout the years in efforts to protect the young

The report will recommend to U.S. Congress whether the repairs and upgrades are worthy of federal investment or not.

and vulnerable members of our community from the dangers of alcohol and tobacco,” Community Guidance Center prevention service manager of the Tiara N. Evangelista said.

Rabauliman concluded that they continuously seek the support of the community to call the ABTC Hotline at 285-1821 to report violations of the alcohol and tobacco laws

“The continued partnership and efforts along with the help of the community will help reduce and eliminate underage drinking and underage use of tobacco products in our community,” Rabauliman said.

CUC

From Page 1

action plan, which they will then present to the Executive and Legislative branches.

In an interview, CUC acting executive director Gary Camacho, part of their discussion was the current water status and supply as well as the root cause of their problems.

Camacho said they identified faulty meters, water theft, water source, and leaks as among their main concerns for the water division.

“All of those attribute to water losses in the island, however, we are producing adequate supply, and we believe at this time, we are producing adequate supply to meet demand. However, due to the items mentioned, they are affecting our ability to provide water,” Camacho said.

Camacho added that be-

cause of these issues, they are also unable to determine the exact water demand in the island and that it is difficult to determine their losses.

To address some of the issues, Camacho said they have been in the process of updating water meters.

“We’re changing thousands of meters, we have another thousand in transit. These meters are different that we will be using to replace the faulty type of meters and this is to effectively record the water usage and to have a better understanding of the demand,” Camacho said.

“We’ve replaced a few thousand over the last few years,” he added.

Camacho said they also plan to heighten their leak detection program as well as monitor theft.

“We again try to closely monitor water theft, to ensure

that everybody pays for the water they use and effectively stop those kinds of situation,” Camacho said.

With regards to water sources, Camacho said they will be doing some work with the current wells.

“There are some wells that have well casings that have deteriorated and will have to be re-drilled. The engineering department is putting a scope of work together to advertise that for award,” Camacho said, “We believe that those will add to our source and provide more water supply for the island.”

One particular area of concern is the Maui IV shaft well hat had portions of its cement wall collapse into its basin and resulted to a pump failure last March. Extensive repairs are said to be needed on the existing cements walls that are 220 feet deep.

The well is a source of water

for Garapan, China Town, Puer to Rico, and Navy Hill areas.

“We’re working with our engineering department and operations division also to try to make a determination,” Camacho said, “It looks as if we’re going to outsource the repairs and try to initiate repairs so we can get that in operations as soon as possible.”

Camacho said they are looking into both short- and long-term plans.

“The growing demand of the island, economic boom, adds more demand and challenges to the water program along with power and waste water, but we have short and long term plans and we’re moving forward in trying to address all these areas as they come on line,” Camacho said

“There is a capacity that we have and we’re reviewing and making a determination whether alternative sources

are going to be required,” he added.

Part of the options that could be looked at is having a reverse osmosis system.

“It could be, it’s obviously a technology that could be used but right now we’re trying to address our immediate issues and try to correct inefficiencies,” Camacho said.

“The effort is to again try to heighten our effort to bring 24-hour water to areas not receiving it,” he added.

The action plan is yet to be finalized and will be submitted to the board to present to lawmakers as well as Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog, who expressed to the board his interests in having this plan in place.

Prior to the meeting, vice chair Eric San Nicolas voiced in the board’s third day of board meeting last month on March 28 the need to have a plan and a consolidated mes-

sage to the public with regards to the water issue.

“If they need to declare a state of emergency, they will but they can’t make that decision because we’re sending out two different messages,” San Nicolas said.

San Nicolas said the board wanted to know the challenges and causes “of the inability to provide 24-hour water supply” and to “have a plan to present to legislature and executive branch.”

“If funding is required, then that’s the kind of conversation that we’ll have,” San Nicolas said.

“This is about our water issue, our water problems. We just need an update of where we’re at as far as the supply of water,” echoed chair Adelina Roberto, adding that they will have an action plan as “that’s what the lieutenant governor wants us to do.”

SENATE

From Page 1

vidual can use a firearm for self-defense, and creates “gun free zones” in or around government buildings, daycare centers, jails, courts, schools, places of worship, clinics, and establishments that serve liquor, among many other places.

The Senate voted unanimously on the bill, which had passed the House on Tuesday, with 10 amendments attached. The Senate had first passed the bill last week.

Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) said the main content of the bill was to regulate the use of handguns in the CNMI and to ensure handguns can only be carried to places not designated as handgun free zones.

It also ensures that people who are convicted of felonies and other crimes like sexual abuse and domestic violence do not have opportunity to

get a license for handguns, he said.

Quitugua said the Senate consulted with the AG and his staff before they acted on the bill and its new amendments.

He said the AG concurred with the House amendments.

However, there was some concerns with a House amendment to impose a \$1,000 excise tax on pistols.

That provision—offered by House vice speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero—has a sunset clause of one-year and works in tandem with another provision offered by Guerrero that mandates that a study be done on the costs and the effects of handguns in the CNMI.

Deleon Guerrero’s provision seeks to determine the “true costs” to the Commonwealth, its government, businesses, non-profits, and the people, of the introduction of the firearms required by the federal court ruling so that these results can be used to create a “taxation scheme”

that will require people and companies seeking to import or introduce these new firearms in the CNMI to shoulder these determined costs.

“Hopefully, it might not be challenged,” Quitugua said of the excise tax provision.

“According to the AG, that amendment might be an indication that we are making it harder for qualified people to own a handgun and in a way infringes on their right to” own a handgun under the Second Amendment.

“...However, because it’s only a year, a sunset provision, we kind of just take what the AG said that we’ll just let it go hoping that nobody’s going to challenge” the provision through another lawsuit.

While the bill made its way through both houses of the Legislature, talks of an appeal of the U.S. District Court for the NMI’s ruling continued.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres earlier said he wanted to appeal or stay the ruling, and Rep. Vinie Sablan (Ind-Saipan) has

introduced a resolution urging Torres and Manibusan to appeal the case.

Torres and Manibusan are set to meet this morning on the matter, *Saipan Tribune* learned, and Torres is willing to test the possibility of having another counsel argue the appeal, even as Manibusan on Tuesday said this would “probably not be appropriate” as the AG is the chief legal officer of the Commonwealth.

There’s also been a call to hold a public forum explaining the bill’s merit, which Rep. Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan) had urged for in the House session Tuesday.

“We have people in our community which need some explanation on this hand gun legislation,” Quitugua also said yesterday.

He added he has met with people out in the community to explain the bill and afterwards they were able to understand why we need this gun control legislation.

“There are few people say-

ing why don’t we appeal it?” Quitugua said. “The ruling has indicated and the U.S. Supreme Court has already indicated that banning handguns is unconstitutional and it is infringing on the fundamental right of an individual and the Second Amendment” and “the AG is saying that is no chance on winning the appeal because the United States has already ruled on the handgun issue.”

The AG is also concerned about the costs of an appeal, Quitugua said, noting the initial costs of the lawsuit and plaintiff’s legal costs and fees the government has to shoulder, as well as the resources the AG spent to defend the NMI’s gun laws. “If you put those two together, the cost is higher than anticipated,” Quitugua said.

“But I think is a legislation has been anticipated for a couple of years already. I think the federal court, in my opinion, has taken this suit slowly and it’s an indication

that with the ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court that we need to come up with some kind of control on the use of handguns,” he added.

In drafting the bill, the AG’s office offered a section-by-section analysis of its provisions, drawing from the Ninth Circuit District Court’s consideration of Second Amendment challenges to firearm law.

The AG notes, citing to the U.S. Supreme Court’s holding in an earlier case, the right secured by the Second Amendment “is not unlimited.”

“In drafting each provision, the attorney general has carefully considered whether the provision infringes on the Second Amendment right, and if so, the extent of such infringement,” AG lawyers said in the analysis.

“The attorney general’s goal is to create comprehensive firearms control that complies with the Second Amendment right.”

Court orders Mathewson's trial heard on Rota

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday set a jury trial

date in the case against William Kapon Mathewson, a man charged with beating and stabbing Dr. Francois Claassens with a fishing spear in the neck.

At a status conference, Camacho ordered that the jury trial of Mathewson will commence at the Rota Superior Court on Oct. 11, 2016, at 9am.

Camacho set a pre-trial conference on July 13, 2016, at 9am, at which time all pre-trial motions will be heard and admissibility issues will be addressed.

Assistant attorney general

Chester Hinds, counsel for the government, requested for the October 2016 trial as they wish to get their own mental health expert to do a mental evaluation on Mathewson.

Mathewson has already been evaluated by the defense's mental expert, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Camacho ordered the parties to make reservations for advance travel, hotel, and car to avoid any delays of the trial.

Camacho said any request for additional funding for expert by the Office of the Public Defender must be made in writing.



Mathewson

Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig and assistant public defender Michael Sato are counsel for Mathewson.

On April 29, 2015, Camacho granted the request of assistant public defender Sato to appoint a psychiatrist who will examine Mathewson. The prosecution did not

oppose Sato's request.

In requesting for appointment of psychiatrist, Sato disclosed that Mathewson will rely upon the defense of insanity at the time when he committed the alleged crime.

Mathewson, a farmer/fisherman, allegedly stabbed the then-60-year-old Claassens in the neck with a fishing spear and clubbed him on the head with a big pot and chain.

The brutal attack happened in the backyard of the doctor's house in Teneto Village on Rota on April 4, 2015. Mathewson's house is located near the doctor's residence.

Claassens has recovered from his injuries.

Patrick Calvo goes to federal court to challenge his imprisonment

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Convicted child molester Patrick M. Calvo has challenged in federal court his alleged unlawful imprisonment at the Department of Corrections.

Calvo, through counsel Bruce Berline, filed yesterday a petition for a writ of habeas corpus against DOC acting commissioner Georgia M. Cabrera before the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Habeas corpus refers to a court order to a prison warden or an institution holding someone in custody to deliver the imprisoned individual to the court.

In September 2009, a Superior Court jury found Calvo guilty of sexually assaulting a 13-year-old girl in 2008.

On May 27, 2010, Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja sentenced the then-47-year-old Calvo to eight years in prison.

Calvo appealed, asking the CNMI Supreme Court to reverse his conviction.

In the appeal, Calvo, through counsel, argued that Naraja deciding counts 3 and 4 violated his Sixth Amendment jury trial right and his 14th Amendment rights.

Count 3 charged the defen-

dant with third-degree sexual abuse of a minor, while count 4 charged him with disturbing the peace.

The high court affirmed the conviction.

In Calvo's petition for habeas corpus, Berline said the Commonwealth's integration into the U.S. political and judicial system, clearly established that the Sixth Amendment jury trial right is a fundamental constitutional right in the Commonwealth.

Berline said denying Calvo of this right was contrary to or unreasonable application of the Sixth Amendment jurisprudence.

Second, the defense lawyer said, the Commonwealth's judicial acquiescence in relegating the criminal jury trial right to the whim of the legislative branch is contrary to or an unreasonable application of the separation of powers and clearly established U.S. Supreme Court jurisprudence that the judicial branch rather than the political branches decide "what the law is."

Finally, Berline said, denying Calvo a jury trial on counts 3 and 4 is contrary to or an unreasonable application of clearly established law on substantive due process as guaranteed by the 14th Amendment.

'Safety zones' around pedestrian, school bus stop areas expanded

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A bill to get cars to slow down around pedestrian and school bus stop areas has lapsed into law.

Rep. Vinnie Sablan's (Ind-Saipan) House Bill 19-66, HS1 amends Commonwealth code to get vehicles to "proceed at a speed not greater than is reasonable and proper and in no event at a speed greater than 10 miles per hour," in areas where a safety zone has been established or where traffic is controlled by a police officer or mechanical traffic signal, cross-walks, designated school bus stops, and school drop-off and pick-up zones when pedestrians are present.

The bill became law without Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' signature, after a 40-day window to act on the bill passed. It is now Public Law 19-40.

Sablan says he is very happy the bill is now law.

The bill aims to protect pe-

destrians, he said, and especially children from speeding vehicles. It also expands the safety zone and the school zone speed limits to bus stops, and school drop off and pick up areas.

"We are seeing an increase of vehicles on our island as driving has become an attraction for tourists," Sablan said. "It is imperative that we put in place safety measures on our roads to ensure the safety of our community and most especially our children."

"There have been several recent incidents where school kids and pedestrians have been struck by vehicles and many close calls as well. I hope and I will ask the Department of Public Safety to ensure that the provisions of PL 19-40 are enforced."

"In addition to enforcement, I have asked the Department of Public Works to ensure that our school zone safety lights are operational to complement the enforcement of this law."

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Torres admin watching Palau drought closely; willing to assist

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is watching Palau’s severe drought closely and is willing to lend a helping hand.

Palau declared a state of emergency last month after the El Nino-induced droughts in the region worsened, Agence France Presse reported this week.

“The administration stands

ready to assist the people of Palau in any way it can as they experience worsening drought conditions,” Blanco told *Saipan Tribune*.

“As you know, Palau is the only sister island that has an honorary consul to the CNMI whom we work closely with,” he added.

At the same time the National Weather Service has signal “very dry” weather in the Mariana Islands and has recommended monitoring wa-

ter supplies, according to an April 1 report.

The Service said that although trade-wind showers have occurred and rainfall has been near normal since March 1, conditions remain very dry with computer models indicating below normal rainfall over the next few weeks.

The Service said water supplies need to be monitored very closely and water conservation is highly encouraged.

“Drying and yellowing of

food crops and vegetation will become much worse and grass fires will increase,” the Service said.

“Water wells on Saipan could see an increase in salinity as the drought progresses,” it adds.

According to the AFP report, Palau officials have warned that drought-stricken Palau could dry up completely this month, and have appealed for urgent aid from Japan and Taiwan, including shipments of water.

The tiny country of about 18,000 people declared a state of emergency last month, the latest Pacific island nation to do so as one of the worst ever El Nino-induced droughts in the region worsens.

“Based on the current water level and usage rates, and assuming conditions persist unabated, a total water outage is likely to occur in the next two to three weeks,” a National Emergency Committee report said.

Access to tap water is al-

ready rationed to three hours a day or less in the capital Koror and schools are only open half days because they cannot give students enough to drink.

“Every morning we struggle to shower, clean up, and prepare for the day with the limited amount of water we have,” resident Rolynda Jonathan told AFP.

The Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia have also declared states of emergency.

Man allegedly beats up girlfriend at knife point in front of her 2 children

A man was arrested on Tuesday for allegedly beating up his girlfriend and pointing a knife at her neck in front her two horrified children at their residence in As Lito.

James Arthur Fuller, 54, a leadman, was arrested on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

The victim complained of pain to the head, neck, and chest. She can hardly move around as a result of the injuries, police said.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed a \$10,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for April 12 at 1:30pm.

Fuller told the court that he would hire his own attorney. Assistant attorney general Emily Cohen appeared for the government.

Police Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that the victim along with her two children, ages 11 and 12 years old, appeared at the Department of Public Safety Central front desk on Tuesday

at 12:55pm to report that her boyfriend, Fuller, beat her up in front of the minors.

Pangelinan said during her interview, the victim stated that earlier that night, Monday, she and Fuller had an argument at their apartment in As Lito.

Fuller then allegedly choked her, poked a knife at her neck, and threw her to their bed. While she fell on the bed, he continued to choke her, slapped her several times, and head-locked her.

When she tried to call the police through her cell phone, Fuller grabbed the phone and smashed it to the floor.

The victim shouted to her children to call the police, but Fuller blocked the door and threatened to punch one of the minors.

The 11-year-old girl yelled at Fuller not to hurt her mother, while the 12-year-old boy was begging Fuller to stop.

Both children told police about how Fuller beat up their mother. The girl said when her mother was standing up, Fuller came from behind and put his right arm around her mother’s neck and choked her.

The girl said Fuller then picked her mother up from the

neck and that her mother’s feet were not touching the ground.

Fuller is 5’11” tall, according to court documents.

The girl said she kept on yelling at Fuller to stop, but he threatened to punch her face if she continued yelling.

The girl said while her mother was on the bed, Fuller put his right elbow on her mother’s chest and pressed it down. She said her mother kept on shouting due to pain.


The victim said Fuller used a 7-inch long knife that he would always bring to work. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

L&T Group of Companies is inviting individuals to apply for the following position:

Accountant
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work related experience in financial management and/or payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and Power Point software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, April 22, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.



**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
for the
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES
for the
CONSTRUCTION OF THE TINIAN MUNICIPAL TRANSFER STATION
RFQ16-GOV-090**

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, “Commonwealth”) are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified consultants to provide Construction Management (CM) Services for the Construction of the Tinian Municipal Transfer Station.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The Construction Plan and the complete Scope of Work for the CM Service are available at the Governor’s CIP Administrator’s Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. The construction plan is available for review only at the CIP Office. A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on April 18, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the CIP Office. Questions regarding this RFQ must be submitted in writing to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia, Project Manager no later than 2:00 p.m. on April 19, 2016. Questions must be sent to fax no. (670) 664-2408 and emailed to esb.cip@gmail.com.

Statements of professional qualification from interested firms must address, and will be evaluated on the following criteria:

A. Overall construction management experience in the Western Pacific Region, and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (15%)

B. Specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required and previous experience with projects similar in scope (25%)

C. Key personnel’s professional qualifications, experience and availability for the proposed services. Indicate the proposed project engineer for this project, his/her professional integrity and competence and his/her knowledge in construction management for buildings and infrastructures. (25%)

D. Past performance on similar projects, including cost control, ability to meet schedules, and quality of completed construction. (25%)

E. Current workload and demonstrated ability to perform the project Scope of Work (10%)

F. Fee (0%) - Proposed fee must be based on a 10 months project schedule.

To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, and be currently licensed to practice engineering in the CNMI, and must hold a Certificate of Authorization, if applicable. Fee estimates will assist the CIP Office for budgeting purposes, but will not be considered in the Firm evaluation scores.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330 or the latest version of Standard Forms. Only professionally licensed firms with a valid CNMI business license will be considered.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked “**RFQ16-GOV-090**”, **Construction Management Services for the Construction of the Tinian Municipal Transfer Station**”. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m., on April 27, 2016. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, on April 27, 2016 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed qualifications statement must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 27, 2016, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST on May 6, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Ralph DLG. Torres,
Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan,
Director of Procurement & Supply

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION
by the
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IX

Public Notice #: MP-W-16-01
Public Notice Date: April 7, 2016
Comment Period Closes: May 9, 2016

The U.S. EPA is issuing a notice of proposed action under the Clean Water Act to reissue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits MP0020010 and MP0020028 to Commonwealth Utilities Corporation for:

Aginan Wastewater Treatment Plant
Agingan Point
Saipan, MP 96950

and

Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant
Sadog Tasi Rd
Saipan, MP 96950

Agingan and Sadog Tasi WWTPs discharge secondary treated wastewater to the Tinian Channel and Tanapag Harbor, respectively. EPA is soliciting comments on the proposal and will consider all comments received during comment period before taking final action. To submit comments, or to obtain additional information including the proposed permit(s) and administrative record, please contact:

Peter Kozelka
(415) 972-3448
kozelka.peter@epa.gov

EPA Region IX (WTR 2-3)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Or visit: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/npdes/pubnotices.html>

2 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged Tanapag Meeting Hall and DPW Channel Bridge and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan’s recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (*DEQ*)

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Joeten-Dadai Charitable Foundation has teamed up once again with Marianas High School to form the team called the Joeten Dolphins for the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer, set on May 13 and 14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field.

Joeten-Dadai donated a total of \$5,000 in cash and gift certificates making them a title sponsor of the event that gathers the community and families of cancer patients and survivors. The title sponsor is the highest level of sponsorship in the MMAC.

Geri C. Dela Cruz, the 2016 MMAC overall committee chair said the foundation has been title sponsors since the event started more than 10 years ago.

"The 2016 MMAC committee once again extends its

Joeten Dolphins formed anew for MMAC 2016



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Clarence Tenorio Sr., seated second right, joins 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer overall chair Geri Dela Cruz, seated left, MMAC members, and Commonwealth Cancer Association officials for a group photo after Joeten-Dadai Charitable Foundation continued its support for the annual event.

ment agencies to participate in the MMAC by becoming a team," added Dela Cruz.

Delta Airlines was the first confirmed title sponsor for this year after donating one round-trip main cabin ticket to anywhere in the U.S. and another round-trip main cabin ticket to Japan plus \$400 worth of travel credit vouchers.

Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz, D.V.M., and his family also donated \$1,500, while the Saipan Mayor's Office has also pledged in providing logistics and other assistance to MMAC for the two-day event.

All MMAC teams will also be selling \$5 raffle tickets to the public to win awesome prizes like the plane tickets from Delta.

All proceeds of the annual MMAC event, from donations by sponsors and other individuals, will go to fund various projects of the Commonwealth Cancer Association that provides other support services and serves as chief advocate for cancer issues in the CNMI.

Issuing vouchers to assist cancer patients with medical costs of treatment, information dissemination in raising cancer awareness and prevention in the CNMI, and monthly meetings with other cancer survivors are some of CCA's projects.

For more information, email MMAC@gmail.com or visit CCA's website at www.ccamarianas.org.

Emergency power interruption scheduled today

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there is a scheduled emergency power interruption today, April 7, from 8:30am to 11:30am.

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-energize the primary lines to allow the CUC line crew to safely replace a rotted 45' power poles along Tun Joaquin road

in Fina Sis. The pole is severely rotted and must be replaced immediately to ensure safety the ongoing vehicular and traffic in the area. CUC greatly appreciates the understanding of the community during this period.

Water services may be affected in the area during the power interruption; however, all services should be restored

after the power is re-energized.

Areas to be affected are Kiya4 (Partial), Tun Joaquin Road in Fina Sis (from Cool Laundry to Ladera School),

No sewer lift station or traffic lights would be affected by the schedule emergency power interruption.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed,

CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). (PR)

sincere gratitude to the [JDCF] for their untiring support in the fight against cancer. So we thank them for their continued commitment," said Dela Cruz.

The 2016 MMAC committee has also renewed its call to other businesses, charitable foundations, public or private groups, families, and individuals to support the event by either becoming a title, major or supporting sponsor.

"We also invite all businesses, families, schools, nonprofit organizations, and govern-



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Vehicle may not be exactly as shown • Some conditions apply • See dealer for details

Commerce: Lock down your assets, secure your data

Banking director and Department of Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman informs the general public and all business establishments of the following:

"We increasingly rely on the internet to work, bank, shop and socialize. Our health and financial information is stored online and devices are connected to control everything from home security systems to thermostats and TVs. While convenient, these connections open the door for possible malicious activity."

Rabauliman advised the public to help manage their cyber security risks with these tips from the National Association of insurance commissioners:

Understanding the threat

Cybercrime is a criminal act involving a computer and a network. Cyber risk includes any risk associated with online activity, such as storing personal information online or completing online transactions. This includes damage to yours or your business' reputation, financial loss or disruption to your life or your business operations.

Identity theft: Is the unauthorized use or attempted use of an existing account, use of your information to open a new account and misuse of your information to commit fraud. Identity theft insurance helps you pay



Rabauliman

the cost of restoring your identity if it is stolen.

Data thieves gain access to information from a variety of places including your mailbox, home and business trash, public dumps, public records and social media. Some criminals are after money, but some also seek public attention.

How do I know my identity is at risk?

You are at risk if you store personal information on a home or work computer, back or shop online. Your data may have been compromised if you notice any of the following scenarios:

- You see unexpected withdrawals from your bank ac-

count

- You don't receive your bills or other mail

- You're billed for health services you didn't use or your health plan rejects a legitimate medical claim

Regularly check your credit report to ensure you don't see:

- A new account you did not open

- Unfamiliar accounts listed

- Negative items

How can I keep my information safe online?

There are basic steps you can take to secure your information and data:

- Be alert to impersonator by being careful about who you trust online

- Safely dispose of personal information by shredding documents using a cross-cut shredder

- Use strict privacy settings on your computer, devices, and browsers

- Keep passwords private and complex

- Be careful when sharing personal information on social media

- Be cautious of what you download from the Internet

- If your social security number is requested by a vendor, ask why it's needed, and how it will be used and protected

Keeping your information safe also means ensuring your devices, including smart phones, laptops, desktops iPads and other devices are secure:

- Update your software

regularly

- Use antivirus or anti-malware software to protect against malicious software that disrupts computer operations, gathers sensitive information, gains access to private computers or displays unwanted advertising

- Passwords protect your laptop to prevent unknown users from accessing it

- Avoid opening emails or attachments from unknown senders

- Back up your files to an encrypted flash drive or external hard drive

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) offers a Cybersecurity Checklist to help you protect your computer and money from online criminals. (PR)

NMTI conducts instructor certification course



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Prospective instructors at Northern Marianas Trades Institute pose for a group photo after taking part in a recently conducted instructor certification program.

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute recently conducted an instructor certification course for candidates wanting to teach classes at the Lower Base trade school. The certification class is a requirement to teach modules

in the "Construction Trades Core" offered by NMTI and backed by the National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER).

NMTI's Construction Trades Program is NCCER accredited

and falls under the sponsorship of the Guam Contractor's Association. Students who successfully pass the exam will be nationally recognized and can teach NCCER courses for a period of three years. Depend-

ing on whether they continue teaching related courses, this auto renewal only expires if the individual doesn't teach a module within a three-year span.

Dr. Herbert Johnston, NCCER Certified Master Trainer

from the Guam Trades Academy, came to Saipan to instruct the course and administer the instructor certification exam. The course was held from April 1 to 3 and was comprised of nine different modules testing the in-

dividual's understanding of how students learn and how to best use NCCER tested methods at ensuring their success in their craft. Johnston impressed upon his students that being good at a craft is one thing, while being able to teach that craft to another is an entirely different subject. He stressed the need for instructors to sincerely care about student learning in order for that student to be not only proficient but to master that craft. If a candidate successfully passes the exam, he will be issued a certification card from NCCER in Alachua, Florida.

As NCCER stands by its product, it must ensure that its courses are being taught by competent individuals, according to Ross Manglona, one of the instructor hopefuls taking the course. Manglona when asked to elaborate further stated, "it's like going to McDonald's. It doesn't matter what state or territory you order your Big Mac, it'll come out the same every time. Being consistent with our product is what this course is all about. The curriculum was set forth by leaders in the craft and what makes this unique is that as the technology is developed, the curriculum is also evolving along with it."

The course drew people from different walks of life. One of the candidates was a retired math teacher, another was a carpenter, an electrician, an HVAC technician, and another was a school administrator. Brian Torres, the math teacher, was asked what he was doing taking the course? Torres replied by saying, "NCCER requires us to be certified as the curriculum is so vast in its concepts that it includes courses such as employability, construction drawings, etc. This requires reading and math skills, so if we intend on teaching at NMTI and teaching such courses we must get the NCCER nod, prior to teaching their established curriculum. (PR)

3rd Women's Summit concludes with plan of action

The 3rd Women's Summit hosted by the CNMI Women's Association concluded on March 31, 2016.

Close to 200 people attended the Summit, including CWA clients, government employees, and retirees from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The Summit, which ran for two days, brought a panel of speakers looking to empower women as leaders in the home, workforce, and community. The participants discussed the status of women and what can

be done to ensure "Gender Parity," as well as opportunities, challenges and actions.

In her welcoming remarks, CWA president and co-founder, Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan) called on women to continue advocating for their rightful place in the table. She said there needs to be more women in the political arena.

"Women are underrepresented in a lot of different areas, and one of them is in politics. We have achieved so much, but we still have a long

way to go in achieving true equality," she said.

In the course of two days, participants identified issues and concerns important to women ranging from health, the environment, civic engagement, education, and training to contribute to the workforce and economy. The Summit culminated in an action plan to achieve goals by 2017. The 2017 Action Plan will be unveiled and routed to the membership and other key stakeholders.

"We would like to thank the

Women's Month and Summit planning committees and panelists, as well as every volunteer who devoted so much time and energy to the month long events culminating with the Women's Summit," said Jacqueline Che, Women's Summit chairwoman.

"The Summit would not be possible without the help of our generous sponsors who enable the CWA to continue this Summit each year. We appreciate the contributions and support in advancing women through their sponsorship," Che adds.

Major sponsors of the Summit are Kanoa Resort, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.-Maternal & Child Health Bureau, and Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

The CNMI Women's Association is funded by the Community Services Block Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs-Department of Youth Services. (PR)

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

US Congress honors Rotary Club of Saipan

The U.S. House of Representatives honored the Rotary Club of Saipan with a certificate of commendation for their part in helping the island after being hit by Typhoon Soudelor last year. U.S. Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) wrote the commendation and the letter that was entered on the records of the 114th U.S. Congress.

Rotary Club of Saipan received the certificate of commendation Tuesday during their regular weekly meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy birthday Len Vergara. Greeting from your two lovely daughters, Mika and Iya.

Sablan, in the letter, thanked officers and members of the civic organization for their "outstanding contributions to the response and recovery of the [CNMI] to Typhoon Soudelor."

He said the Rotary Club and other individuals in the community, both here in the CNMI and in the mainland, joined hands for the recovery efforts.

"You and many others both within our community, and from afar rose to the challenge of Typhoon Soudelor with courage, fortitude, and generosity," said Sablan.

Sablan added he entered a statement of commendation on the Congressional Record on Dec. 15, 2015 to commemorate the efforts made by the Rotary Club of Saipan.



Rotary Club of Saipan president Curtis Dancoe, center, president-elect Ivan Ilmov, right, and vice president Brian Clayton show the certificate of commendation, entered on the 114th U.S. Congress' record, and letter that the club received from U.S. Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" Camacho Sablan yesterday.

JON PEREZ

He added that he enclosed copies of his statement that was entered on the Congressional Record along with the certificate and letter that honors the role that the Rotary played on Saipan's journey in bouncing back from the tragedy.

"With everyone's help, our community has been able to get back on its feet. We are restoring and rebuilding our island home, and I believe that we will be stronger and more resilient than before," Sablan said.

Rotary Club of Saipan president Curtis Dancoe, president-elect Ivan Ilmov, and vice president Brian Clayton received the letter and commendation. Dancoe read the letter to the members and said they are thankful for Sablan's effort to commend them.

Call for entries extended for Humanities Film Festival

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council has extended the call for entries deadline for its Humanities Film Festival to May 31.

The festival's theme is "Soudelor and the Winds of Change in the CNMI."

Filmmakers are invited to submit entries that explore and address the ethical, philosophical and existential questions raised in the aftermath of

Typhoon Soudelor.

The festival is open to individuals who are 18 years old and older and current residents of the CNMI. High school students (9th-12th grades) are also eligible to submit films. Production companies or companies that routinely produce commercial grade videos are not eligible to participate.

Films may be submitted

under three categories—Narrative, Documentary, and Student. Entries in each of these categories may be a feature film (more than 30 minutes) or a film short (no more than 15 minutes).

In accordance with festival guidelines, submitters must have had a major creative role in the film's production. Additionally, entries must be mostly moving pictures, not

montages of still images and formatted in Quicktime MOV at 780p or higher resolution.

Entries must be received by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council no later than 4pm on Tuesday, May 31, 2016. Late entries or entries that do not address the festival's theme will not be considered.

Films will be screened in June at a time, date and

venue to be announced. First through third place entries in each category will receive cash prizes.

Entry forms and festival guidelines and fact sheet may be downloaded from the council website www.northernmarianashumanities.org or picked up at the Council's office in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai.

Contact council staff at 235-4785 for more information about this upcoming program. (PR)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-023

Opening Date: Monday, March 28, 2016

Closing Date: Friday, April 08, 2016

Maintenance Worker

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Management Analyst or designee. Performs routine preventative and general maintenance of buildings, grounds, equipment and systems in accordance with safety procedures and safe work practices. Maintains cleanliness of facilities including sweeping, mopping, buffing and vacuuming floors and carpets; cleans surfaces including doors, windows and work surfaces; dusts shelving and equipment; performs custodial duties; and collects and disposes trash. Performs basic building maintenance; replaces light bulbs; performs basic repairs such as door knob replacement, blower fan repair, and other routine equipment repairs; maintains order with equipment, furnishings, work areas and supplies. Notifies appropriate resource for advanced troubleshooting or repair work. Performs basic grounds keeping and facilities maintenance; inspects areas to maintain safety and eliminate general hazards. Reviews supply needs and replenishes supply stock such as tissue, paper towels, trash liners and other supply needs; moves file boxes or other items to storage areas; ensures proper storage of cleaning materials, equipment and tools. Performs inventory check of supplies and initiates requests for replenishment. Maintains activity records or logs. Assists skilled maintenance workers with project tasks; may assist with basic carpentry, plumbing and electrical work. Position requires the ability to lift 50 pounds or more. May be exposed to hazardous cleaning chemicals. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : Administration (Dandan Office), Power Generation (Lower Base), Power Division (San Jose) Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY : \$16,155.00 per annum to \$19,850.00 per annum. (Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.)

CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

POSITION(S) : Three (3)

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS. Knowledge of: Applicable tools and equipment of assigned maintenance tasks; Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skills in: Performing routine and preventative maintenance in assigned area; Performing housekeeping or custodial work; Performing basic equipment or system repairs; Monitoring grounds and work areas for hazards and safety; Reviewing and replenishing stock supplies; Initiating stock and equipment replacement; Maintaining activity records or logs; Assisting with basic carpentry, plumbing and/or electrical work; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

CUC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



Champion Finance is looking for Dynamic individuals who would like to be a part of our team for the following post.

Loan / Financial Manager

Duties:

- Review loan agreements to ensure that they are complete and accurate according to policy.
- Approve, reject, or coordinate the approval or rejection of lines of credit or commercial, real estate, or personal loans.
- Analyze applicants' financial status, credit, and property evaluations to determine feasibility of granting loans.
- Review collection reports to determine the status of collections and the amounts of outstanding balances.
- Set credit policies, credit lines, procedures and standards in conjunction with senior managers.
- Oversee the flow of cash or financial instruments.
- Prepare financial or regulatory reports required by laws, regulations, or boards of directors.
- Develop or analyze information to assess the current or future financial status of firms.
- Evaluate financial reporting systems, accounting or collection procedures, or investment activities and make recommendations for changes to procedures, operating systems, budgets, or other financial control functions.
- Establish procedures for custody or control of assets, records, loan collateral, or securities to ensure safekeeping.
- Plan, direct, and coordinate risk and insurance programs of establishments to control risks and losses.

Education/Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Business Administration or Accounting and 2 years' experience in Finance will be a plus. Salary will be discussed upon interview.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumes or pick up an employment application at
Champion Finance, 3rd floor, Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 316-B
or email championfinancecnmi@gmail.com

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

‘Panama Papers’ disclose a colossal financial scandal

We all knew the rich and powerful play by different rules than the rest of us. Some are willing to bend or break the law to enrich themselves, and some bankers and lawyers are more than happy to help them.

Yet, the level of venality revealed by what are being called the Panama Papers is mind-boggling—and infuriating. It’s the globalization of corruption, and even more contemptible are political leaders who loot the public treasuries of their poor nations.

We can only hope that the worldwide attention and outrage will lead to real consequences and lasting change. Otherwise, public trust in governments and financial institutions will further erode. It’s not too far-fetched to believe the foundations of capitalism could be weakened.

Tuesday brought a couple of encouraging signs.

Iceland’s prime minister resigned, the first leader being held to account. If laws were broken, those involved should face justice, no matter how prominent they are. So should lawyers and other enablers of wrongdoing.

Citing the Panama Papers, President Barack Obama urged leaders around the world to join him in tightening laws and cracking down on the “huge problem” of global tax avoidance. As he pointed out, some of the schemes slide through legal loopholes, which is why his Treasury Department issued new rules late Monday to discourage tax inversions, when U.S. companies move their headquarters overseas to get a lower tax rate.

All of this is coming to light because of a massive leak 11.5 million emails, client records and other documents from a Panamanian law firm, Mossack Fonseca & Co. It specializes in offshore shell companies—in notorious tax havens such as the Cayman Islands, but also in places such as Wyoming, Delaware and Nevada.

The *Süddeutsche Zeitung* newspaper in Munich, Germany, received the documents from an anonymous source and shared them with the Washington-based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists. Several McClatchy journalists joined more than 370 dogged journalists from 78 countries in the largest media collaboration of its kind ever undertaken.

The leak uncovers the shadowy world of international finance just as Edward Snowden’s revelations did the hidden surveillance state.

The documents show that a dozen current and former world leaders, 61 relatives of current national leaders and 128 other current or former politicians and public officials use offshore companies to conceal their money.

They include the prime minister of Pakistan, the monarchs of Morocco and Saudi Arabia and Iceland’s now former prime minister.

Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson set up a company in the British Virgin Islands and hid his financial interest. The

See SCANDAL on Next Page



Immigration agents whistle Trump’s tune

How disconnected is border policy in Washington from the border patrol agents who carry it out in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and California? Last week, the National Border Patrol Council, which represents 16,500 of the nation’s more than 21,000 border patrol agents, endorsed Donald Trump for president. In case this obvious affront to the current president was insufficiently pronounced, the union’s press release took pains to spell it out, saying its members “selflessly serve this country in an environment where our own political leaders try to keep us from doing our jobs.”

The rest of the release — “our first-ever endorsement in a presidential primary” based on Trump’s unique campaign — reads like a tea party decree circa 2014.

Immigration policy is immensely complex and, like other contentious political issues, subject to the variable weather of public opinion. But it’s also subject to a hefty amount of hostility from the federal agents who are tasked with carrying it out. In 2012, a group of Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents sued the Barack Obama administration, claiming the administration required them not to enforce the law. The lawsuit was funded by NumbersUSA, an anti-immigration group.

The affinity between some ICE agents, border patrol agents and anti-immigration groups is no secret. The Center for New Community, a Chicago-based nonprofit devoted to “countering the reality of racism and bigotry in America,” issued a 2015 report pointing out ties between border agents and anti-immigration groups.

“Most immigration enforcement agents that I know are good, hard-working people trying to do the best job they can,” said immigration attorney David Leopold, former president of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, via email. “Unfortunately, the National Border Patrol Council is just another anti-immigrant group.”

If the union is even slightly representative of many of the agents it represents, you can see how Obama’s policy of prioritizing deportations, with a heavy de facto emphasis on leniency for the law abiding, could often go awry in the field.

On Vox.com last year, Dara Lind wrote:

By FRANCIS WILKINSON
Bloomberg View

Francis Wilkinson is a Bloomberg View columnist. Readers may send him email at fwilkinson1@bloomberg.net.



“Immigration agents have more power than anyone else in determining who gets deported — and, accordingly, have the responsibility to make sure that’s in line with the administration’s policy.

“But rank-and-file agents have been fighting the administration for years over attempts from the White House to restrict agents’ ability to deport unauthorized immigrants.”

In effect, many agents, along with employees of states such as Texas, which has sued the Obama administration over its plan to enable millions of undocumented immigrants to avoid deportation and obtain work papers, spend their working hours undermining federal immigration policies. It’s not unlike a bunch of fire fighters wandering about town setting fire to abandoned buildings whenever the mood strikes them.

There’s a limit to what the White House can do about the situation. With the blessing of Congress, the border patrol has expanded aggressively in the past two decades. Border Patrol and ICE agents, not White House functionaries, are the ones out in field, patrolling the border areas and the interior, encountering undocumented immigrants and making decisions about what to do with them.

Like the anti-immigrant wing of Congress, they can be a hostile force, working at cross purposes to the executive under whom they serve. The Supreme Court, which will hear the Texas lawsuit against the administration this spring, can rule in Obama’s favor, enabling him to pursue his immigration policy via executive action. What it can’t do is make the agents in the field carry that policy out.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Does terrorism work as a political strategy? The evidence says no

The conventional wisdom holds that Islamic State is mean and successful, and that Islamic State is so successful precisely because it is so mean. That's because most people unwittingly subscribe to what I call the Strategic Model of Terrorism. As the name suggests, the Strategic Model assumes that angry young men turn to terrorism because it's strategic behavior. Terrorism may be immoral, but it offers them the best chance to redress their grievances by coercing governments into accommodating their political demands.

According to this view, Hamas members are smart to attack Jews; the Kurdistan Workers' Party is shrewd to kill Turks; and the Islamic State exhibits cunning when it decapitates journalists. The violence may not be pretty, but it's a dependable way to secure a Palestinian state or a Kurdish state or to force the international community to accept a caliphate.

Although governments say they don't negotiate with terrorists, the causal logic of the Strategic Model may seem sound: As the pain to their civilians mounts, governments are tempted to grant the terrorists' demands in order to appease them. Proponents of the Strategic Model highlight how governments soften their political stances when their civilians are attacked in order to help protect them.

There's just one problem with this common narrative — it lacks empirical support. Over a decade ago, I began publishing the first systematic studies on the political effects of terrorism. What I've found is that terrorism is actually a surprisingly ineffective political instrument.

Conventionally, terrorism means violence committed by non-state actors against civilians for a presumed political goal. If we define terrorism in this standard way, it turns out that the tactic is highly correlated with political failure. There are some anomalous cases in which attacks on civilians worked out politically, such as when Spain decided to withdraw from Iraq after the 2004 Madrid train attacks. But throughout history, there are surprisingly few exceptions to this rule.

Statistically, my research establishes that attacks on civilians actually lower the likelihood of government concessions. This is true even after we account for all sorts of other factors that could possibly explain the association between terrorism and political failure, like the capability of the perpetrators and the nature of their demands. Rather than appeasing the perpetrators, governments almost always go on the offensive when their civilians are struck.

Indeed, it's the politicians least sympathetic to terrorists who tend to benefit most from their violence. Predictably, the most hawkish Republican presidential candidates in the field, from Donald Trump to Ted Cruz to Marco Rubio, soared in the polls after the San Bernardino attacks, while relative doves like Rand Paul disappeared from the race entirely. Right-wing candidates in Israel like Benjamin Netanyahu also tend to get a boost in the polls after Palestinian terrorist attacks, as the public sours on a peace process. This is the political norm all over the world — just ask French nationalist Marine Le Pen.

For all the talk of Islamic State's success, its terrorism is al-

ready backfiring. Islamic State said it beheaded the American journalist James Foley to pressure the United States into leaving Iraq. In response, President Barack Obama decided to not only ramp up operations in Iraq, but to extend them into Syria. The Paris attacks had a similar effect on France by dramatically increasing its participation in the military coalition, reflected best in the deployment of the Charles de Gaulle aircraft carrier to the Persian Gulf. Indeed, every single country hit by Islamic State terrorism has stiffened its resolve, from Australia to Canada to Russia to Turkey to even military-less Japan.

Because Islamic State has amassed so many enemies, the group is now losing battles, territory and revenue. It has trouble paying fighters, and its propaganda output is declining. Within Syria, other Islamist groups such as Ahrar al-Sham and Nusra Front are gaining recruits at a faster clip than Islamic State precisely because they're not as notorious for harming civilians. More and more, Islamic State members are defecting or going elsewhere to fight, like Europe. But the cherished dream of a caliphate was probably fun while it lasted.

A possible counterargument is that Islamic State wants to provoke governments in order to make them look bad. But that's not what leaders of groups like Islamic State generally say. Based on my content analysis of all known Osama bin Laden statements translated into English, the al-Qaida founder primarily expressed interest in gaining concessions from governments. According to Bin Laden, the purpose of the 9/11 attacks was fourfold: to sever U.S. relations with pro-Western Muslim governments such as in Egypt; to erode U.S. relations with Israel; to stop "crusader wars" in which Western countries have killed Muslims around the world; and

By **MAX ABRAHMS**

Los Angeles Times



Max Abrahms is a professor of political science and public policy at Northeastern University and a member at the Council on Foreign Relations. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

to eject the U.S. from the Persian Gulf. In response to the attacks, however, the Bush administration bolstered relations with so-called "apostate regimes" as well as with Israel and killed countless Muslims in counterterrorism operations all over the world, while increasing the troop presence in the Gulf by a factor of 15.

Rarely do terrorist leaders say their aim is to provoke governments, and usually only after the latter have already started to go on the offensive.

Islamic State has an even lower IQ than its parent group and most other terrorist organizations in history. This really shouldn't surprise anyone since Islamic State has zero admissions criteria. If you want to become an Islamic State terrorist, just attack somebody who isn't looking and yell "Allahu akbar."

It's time the media stopped overhyping Islamic State operatives and other terrorists by lionizing the sophistication of their attacks. It doesn't take a mastermind to blow up grandma, stir up a lot of fear and get the media to cover it. Of course, if that's how you define success, then the tactic of terrorism, by its very definition, has a 100 percent success rate.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Honesty is like an icicle

Not a moment of day before the sunshine settles for the night where events short the mind trying to figure out what is going on with our people's elected representatives in our Legislature, Office of Attorney General, and Governor's Office. A fifty plus pages of gun control bill that passed the House of Representative and pushing its way to the Senate is much more complicated than the implementation of Article III, Section 7 of the CNMI Constitution.

The politicians in the Governor's Office and the elected AG hijacked the CNMI Constitution when an erroneous and unconscionable political opinion became the rule that followed without rational and lawful explanation. In the living course of the gun control bill, the general public was ignored and shooed to the sideline. What happened when our elected AG engineered to violate and circumvent the CNMI Constitution was a recurring force of habit of a dirty political statesmanship. The CNMI people viewed as pariah that burdened the political process and our participation is a disposable matter that sustains the veracity of democratic thoughts and doctrine only sculptured in the CNMI modern day democracy.

Where a word in the written language, which is simple, clear, plain, and without ambiguity, the writer's intention should be communicated in harmony. The readability of written communication is purposeful and critical factor in language. The AG sent the draft bill of SB 19-94 knowing full well that the subject matter he had written and proposed requires a reading level and knowledge of at least a four year college education. The reading level of the written language of Article III, Section 7 of the CNMI Constitution only requires a tenth grade level of education. Using Flesch Reading Ease, Flesch Kindaid, and Coleman-Lau readability analysis formulas, the readability measure of the text of SB 19-94, and Article III, Section 7 of the CNMI constitution are: 16 years of education, and eight years of education, respectively. Readability analysis is based on the number words in paragraph, number of sentences and characters, and syllabic counts of words used in the text.

If Article III, Section 7 of the CNMI Constitution is plain and clear, and could be read and understood by a junior student in

high school level of education, then one could not argue the simplicity mode of the law as stated in the constitution. If the Legislature, Governor's Office, and OAG could not read and interpret a law that only measures a readability level of a junior grade in high school, how are we to be assured that the Legislature would address a bill the elected AG sent to it that requires no less than a college level education to fully comprehend the entire context and text of the written material? Hence, the Legislature ignored, the AG consciously manipulated the violation of the CNMI Constitution, and the politicians in the governor's office celebrated an ill-gotten windfall at the expense of the CNMI people when they dealt with the matter dictated by Article III, Section 7 of the CNMI Constitution. Now, the game plan is to rush and hastily maneuver the passage of the gun control bill without the participation of the general public, and that is viewed by our political elites as good representative government.

The elected AG by view and read of what Article III, Section 7 of the CNMI Constitution as a simple and clear law, he could not have undermined the intent of the constitution, thus avoiding the suspicion of participating in a conspiracy and deliberate move to sabotage the will of the CNMI people. How could a person that prays as an impartial jurist of the CNMI Judicial order play politics under the guise of fair and justice. A doctor of jurisprudence, a revered retired superior court judge, a former AG, a licensed practicing attorney, and good unadulterated citizen that failed so miserably reading and interpreting what seems to be a simple and unambiguous law of Article III, Section 7 of the Constitution. Forget the canons of statutory construction and statutory interpretation, no "noscitur a sociis", "ejusdem generis" and all the mambo-jumbo of play that lawyers cue the quiz, nothing would restore what was stolen from the CNMI people when the AG elected to abandon the plain and unambiguous rule of Article III, Section 7 of the CNMI Constitution for his political and personal gain. This to many is corruption in plain view committed by the well-connected and power elites in our government. Unfortunately, our elected leaders are teaching the cat to eat the rat. The lesson we are showcasing to our millennials is motivated that corruption lives okay and expect to embrace more to come. That legacy to and with our present elected officials is not going to go unnoticed. Integrity and honesty is only transparent if not adulterated past and present. Honesty is like an icicle; once it melts that is the end of it.

Francisco R. Agulto

Kanat Tabla

SCANDAL

From Page 10

company held millions of dollars in three major Icelandic banks that failed in the 2008 financial crash, and he negotiated paying off the banks' creditors. He initially refused to step down Monday, sparking the largest anti-government protests in that country's modern history.

Those identified in the leak also include close friends of Russian leader Vladimir Putin, a close friend of Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto and companies linked to the family of Chinese President Xi Jinping. Also named are 29 members of the Forbes list of the world's richest people, and leaders of FIFA, the embattled governing body for soccer, as well as assorted spies, gun runners and drug kingpins.


The astounding stories based on the documents are being published in The Sacramento Bee and news organizations across the country and around the world. More bombshells are coming.

They are a reminder that even in our digital age of tweets and Instagram photos, time-consuming and sophisticated reporting is still essential to understanding the world.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲87° ▼75°


FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲87° ▼75°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°


SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°

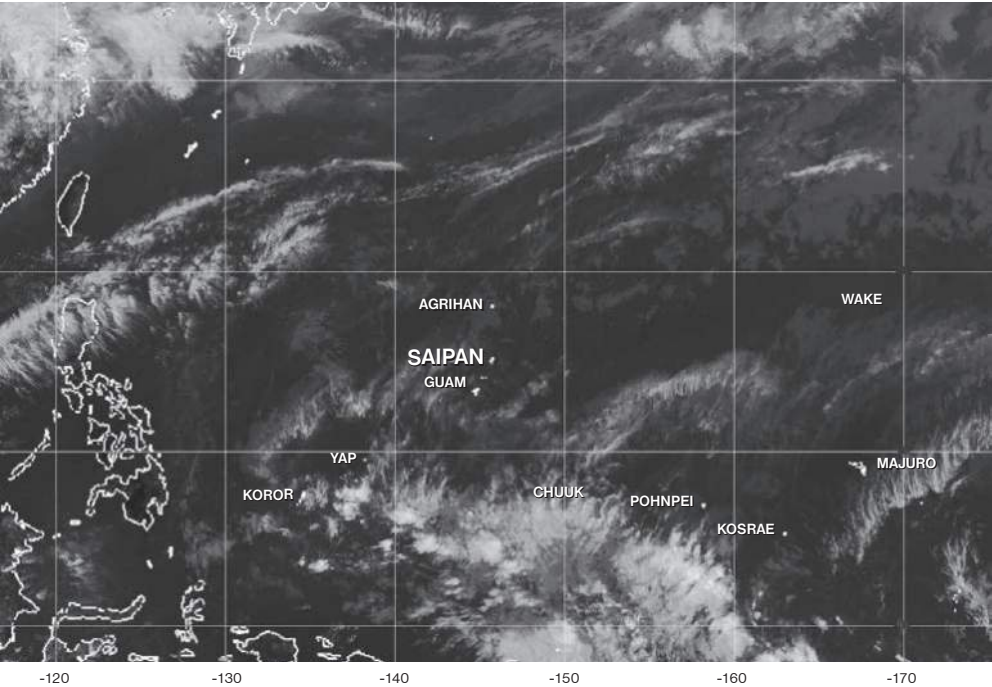
MONDAY



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.

▲87° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough stretches eastward from 2N135E through a disturbance centered southwest of Chuuk at 3N147E then ending near 1N152E. Convergence north of the trough is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of Koror within 90 miles of a line from 7N136E to 6N145E and south of Chuuk and Pohnpei south of a line that runs from 7N145E to 6N153E to EQ160E. A shear line extends southwestward from northeast of the Marshall Islands from 16N180 to end north of Chuuk at 10N152E. Cloudiness and scattered showers are seen along and up to 100 miles north of the shear line. A cool unstable surface flow is north of the Wake Island area with cloudiness and patchy showers north of 20N from 157E to 180. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers east of Tarawa within 50 miles of a line from 2N174E to 2N178E otherwise. There are fresh to strong trade winds with patchy areas of light showers across much of Micronesia.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼81
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼80
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼59
Beijing	Sunny	▲76	▼44
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼70
Honolulu	Windy	▲77	▼69
London	Thunderstorms	▲53	▼41
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼58
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲95	▼77
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲70	▼48
Miami	Showers	▲77	▼69
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲49	▼44
Osaka	Rain	▲74	▼56
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲57	▼41
Pusan	Rain	▲65	▼49
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼59
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼47
San Francisco	Sunny	▲82	▼58
Seoul	Showers	▲71	▼41
Tokyo	Rain	▲63	▼55
Washington, DC	Windy	▲59	▼50



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
2:21 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
8:23 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
2:49 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
8:51 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:08 AM	6:30 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	6:30 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:31 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:46 AM	6:20 PM
Friday	6:37 AM	7:22 PM
Saturday	7:30 AM	8:25 PM
Sunday	8:24 AM	9:27 PM
Monday	9:19 AM	10:27 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2016							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily	OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN	UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM	UA190/2927	10:00am	5:35pm	3 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM	UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA192/2925	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2921/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM	UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM	UA192/2927	10:20pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA192/2929	10:20pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR	UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota
UA2928/193	6:05pm	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM	UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	9:00am+1	3, 6 via GUM	UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN	OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
				UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
			9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily						
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

UOG scientists seek genetic reasons for coral reef survival



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

University of Guam professors Jason Biggs and Tom Schils pose for the exciting first sequencing run on the new genetic sequencer. This NextSeq 500, which is not much larger than a microwave oven, has the power to concurrently sequence up to 50 genomes.

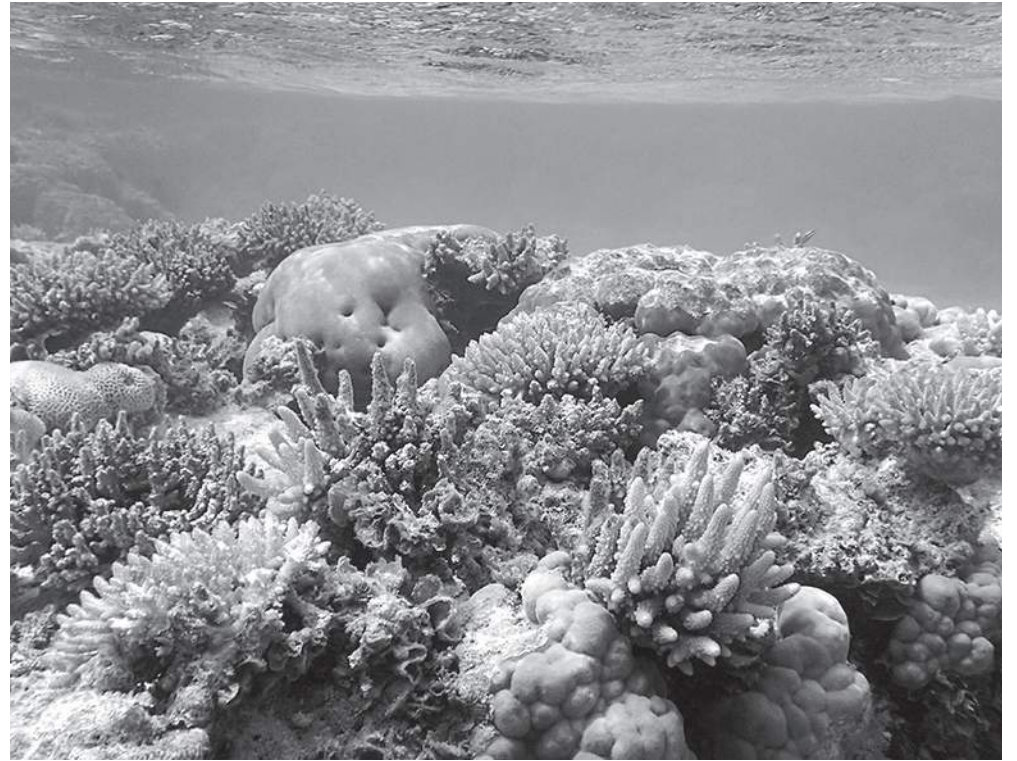
High-tech genome mapping of coral species from Guam's marine environment put scientists from the University of Guam's Marine Laboratory at the forefront of coral reef research. Using the NextSeq 500, a newly installed genetic sequencer, UOG scientists are investigating how fragile coral reefs and marine ecosystems adapt to extreme environmental changes, including impacts associated with climate change

such as warmer ocean waters, excessive sedimentation, and ocean acidification.

By studying coral genomes, scientists can better understand why some coral reefs thrive and survive and others die. "Coral reef survival is linked to Guam's economic survival," said Dr. John Peterson, UOG assistant vice president. "Everything from recreational tourism to fishing is based on the health of

our coral reefs. It is in our best interests to better understand the genetic factors that enable coral colonies to thrive."

The new genetic sequencer at the core of this research was made possible through the University of Guam's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) program, a \$6 million grant award from the National Science Foundation (NSF). According to Dr. Jason Biggs,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Coral reefs around the world are increasingly under threat from coral bleaching which destroys colonies and interrupts the food chain they support. Scientists at the University of Guam Marine Laboratory are using a new genetic sequencer to search for the biological mechanisms that allow some colonies to survive and thrive while others die.

Associate Professor of Molecular Ecology and EPSCoR Co-Principal Investigator, the new instruments will allow UOG Marine Laboratory and EPSCoR researchers to sequence genetic information and systematically study Guam's coral colonies. Other scientists in Hawaii and Australia have already begun such research, but Guam, with its historically warmer climate, poses a new and exciting opportunity for local researchers.

"Having this technology in such close proximity to Guam's coral reefs will enable our faculty to be at the forefront of molecular reef ecology, tackling questions we are just beginning to ask," said Dr. Biggs. "These new sequencers are at the core of this

research and only a handful of them are stationed in places as unique as Guam and Micronesia. These instruments will allow us, the people of Guam, to study these things for ourselves, and train our students as the next frontier scientists."

That is part of the goal, explains Dr. Terry Donaldson, Marine Laboratory Director and EPSCoR Principal Investigator. The instruments underscore the university's increased research capacity and ability to provide scientific services within the region while attracting more researchers, students, and external funding opportunities in the future.

"Through EPSCoR, the University of Guam has joined an elite group of institutions that are building research ca-

capacity, improving infrastructure and cyber-infrastructure, and providing greater educational opportunities for students while enhancing research opportunities for young scientists," said Donaldson.

"We have reached a significant institutional and research milestone with the successful acquisition and installation of genetic sequencing instruments," said UOG president Robert A. Underwood. "Our increased research capacity combined with record enrollment and conferral of a record number of degrees showcase the strides the University has undertaken in the last year; all of which have a major positive impact on our community."

For more information, visit <http://guamepscor.uog.edu>. (PR)

Blas meets with new counsel general of Japan

AGANA, GUAM—Guam Senator Frank Blas Jr. met yesterday morning with the new counsel general of Japan in Guam and discussed ways to continue to enhance the relationship between Guam and Japan.

Shinji Urabayashi took over as counsel general of Japan in Guam last month. Urabayashi most recently served as counselor at the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia and also served as counsel at the Consulate General of Japan in New York and in Seattle. He has been with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since April of 1978.

Blas welcomed Urabayashi to Guam and told him that he looks forward to continuing the working relationship he has with the counsel's office on Guam. Blas also told Urabayashi that he will join with him to continue to foster the goodwill between the people of Guam and the people of Japan.

The meeting took place this morning at the senator's Office in Agana. For more information, please contact the Office of Senator Frank F. Blas, Jr., at 475-2527 or via email at frank.blasjr@gmail.com. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Guam Senator Frank Blas Jr. poses with the new counsel general of Japan in Guam, Shinji Urabayashi, at his office in Agana, Guam.

3 rescued 51 nautical miles from Chuuk

SANTA RITA, Guam—Three men aboard a missing 19-foot skiff were located by a merchant vessel, after departing Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia three days earlier.

At 3:55 pm, on April 4, 2016, watch standers at U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam's Rescue Sub-Center (RSC) received a report from the Chuuk SAR Liaison regarding an overdue 19-foot skiff in the Federated States of Micronesia with three adult males aboard. The vessel departed on April 2nd for a fishing trip from Weno Atoll to Ollan Island and had planned to return to Tol Atoll later that evening. RSC Guam reached out to local and state authorities within FSM and the U.S. Embassy in Pohnpei to support and coordinate search efforts for the missing men and their vessel.

Watch standers from RSC Guam used the Coast Guard Search and Rescue (SAR) Op-

timal Planning System, a computer-based SAR planning tool to develop search patterns for the responding vessels. Radio and satellite broadcasts were made advising

mariners of the distress. RSC Guam also contacted U.S. Coast Guard's Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC) in Hawaii to coordinate the launch of available aircraft to aid in the search for the missing vessel.

Multiple resources from FSM and the Automated Mutual-Assistance Vessel Rescue (AMVER) system were contacted to conduct searches for the missing vessel. Search resources included eight local boats, the 787-foot, Liberia flagged, bulk carrier, *REI-HOU*, and a 751-foot, Panama flagged, bulk carrier, *ENERGY GLORY*.

During the early morning hours of April 5th, after drifting for more than three days,

the missing men and their vessel were located by the AMVER vessel *ENERGY GLORY*, approximately 51 nautical miles southwest of Chuuk. The men were taken aboard the *ENERGY GLORY* and received food and water. *ENERGY GLORY* transferred the men to a local small boat approximately 10 nautical miles off Chuuk.

All three men arrived ashore with no reported injuries. Two multi-national coordinated Search and Rescue (SAR) responses have occurred within FSM waters over the last seven days. Each SAR response resulted in survivors being aided by a participating AMVER vessel. On March 30th, the 770-foot, Panama flagged, bulk carrier, *SHORYU* rescued three men approximately 31 nautical miles north-east of Puluwat, FSM. The men were adrift for two days, prior to their rescue. (PR)



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Asia

Despite global outcry, tackling tax havens is a tough task

LONDON (AP)—There's one part of the British Empire on which the sun still does not set: its tax havens.

Britain's former world dominance has left it with a string of tiny territories scattered around the globe, and many of them have become hubs for hiding money. Despite growing political pressure, shutting down these and other tax havens may be easier said than done.

The leak of 11.5 million documents from a Panamanian law firm that specializes in discreet financial services for the wealthy has brought renewed calls for a global clampdown on shadowy financial activity. Many feel Britain bears an especially large duty to act. More than half the 200,000 companies set up for clients by Panamanian firm Mossack Fonseca in the leaked files are registered in the British Virgin Islands, a British overseas territory in the Caribbean.

"Britain has a huge responsibility," Jeremy Corbyn, leader of the main opposition Labour Party, said Tuesday. "The government needs to stop pussyfooting around on tax dodging."

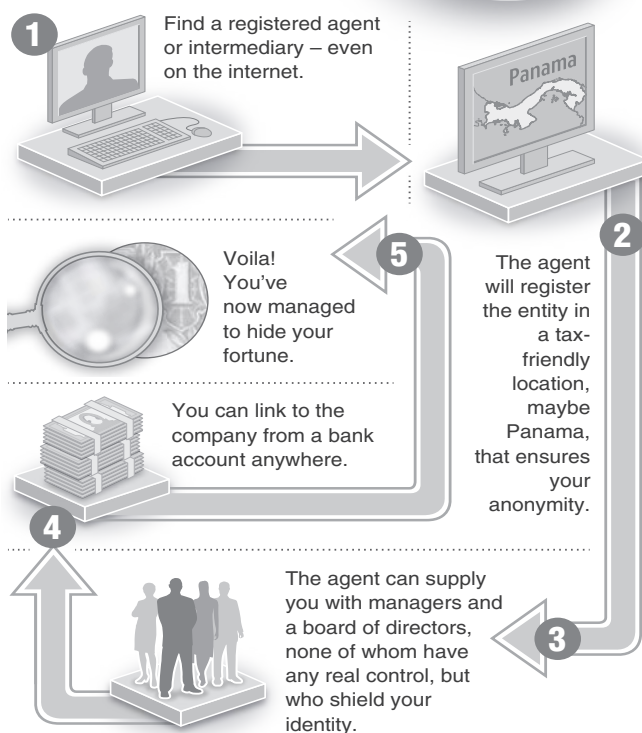
China restricts trade with North Korea over nuclear tests

BEIJING (AP)—China has banned most imports of North Korean coal and iron ore, the country's main exports, in a significant increase in pressure on the North under U.N. sanctions against its nuclear and missile tests.

China buys an estimated two-thirds of impoverished North Korea's exports, making Beijing's cooperation essential for trade penalties approved by the U.N. Security

Setting up an offshore company

Setting up an offshore company or trust can take as little as a few days. The basic steps:



Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau

Graphic: Robert Dorrell, GraphFix Lab/TNS

As Britain's colonies gained independence after World War II, London encouraged several small Caribbean islands to become tax havens as a means to self-sufficiency. As

a result, many of the world's tax havens have British links, including overseas territories such as the British Virgin Islands, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands.

Council last month to succeed.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has intensified nuclear activities in defiance of U.N. sanctions, conducting his country's fourth nuclear test in January and test-firing missiles.

In a sign of frustration with its ally, China signed onto Security Council sanctions last month that include mandatory inspections of cargo bound to and from North Korea. The council called on all countries

to "redouble their efforts" to enforce the sanctions.

The latest Chinese restrictions announced Tuesday ban most imports of North Korean coal, iron ore, gold, titanium, vanadium and rare earths—a key revenue source for the mineral-rich North. The CIA estimated North Korea's 2013 exports at \$4.4 billion, with 65 percent of that going to China and the bulk of it made up of mineral sales.

Wal-Mart pledges commitment to cage free eggs by 2025

NEW YORK (AP)—Wal-Mart Stores Inc., nation's largest food retailer, is pledging to sell only cage-free eggs by 2025, joining a growing list of retailers and food makers making the switch. The pace picked up when McDonald's announced in September that it will phase out the use of eggs laid by caged hens over the next 10 years. Since then, Target and Costco have been among major retailers to offer specific pledges. But with Wal-Mart garnering 25 percent of total grocery sales in the U.S., it will have outsized influence on suppliers' practices. Wal-Mart said Tuesday it will require egg suppliers to be

certified and fully compliant with the United Egg Producers Animal Husbandry Guidelines or an equivalent standard. It will monitor their compliance through a third party. The cage-free standard will apply to eggs sold at more than 5,000 stores including Sam's Club locations.

Ford to build small-car factory in Mexico, adding 2,800 jobs

DETROIT (AP)—Ford Motor Co. plans to build a new \$1.6 billion auto assembly plant in Mexico, creating about 2,800 jobs and shifting small-car production from the U.S. at a time when moving jobs south of the border has become a major issue in the U.S. presidential campaign. The company

announced the plant in the San Luis Potosi state Tuesday without saying specifically what cars it will build there. But the United Auto Workers union has said Ford plans to shift production of the Focus compact and C-Max small gas-electric hybrid from suburban Detroit to Mexico, where the cars can be made at lower cost and more profitably. The UAW's new four-year contract with Ford, signed last year, guarantees new vehicles for the Wayne, Michigan, assembly plant and a \$700 million investment that preserves the plant's 3,924 jobs. Union members have said they expect the factory to get a new version of the Ranger small pickup and a new small SUV called the Bronco.

World

Cruz, Sanders emerge victorious in Wisconsin primaries

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Republican Ted Cruz stormed to a commanding victory in Wisconsin Tuesday, denting front-runner Donald Trump's chances of capturing the GOP nomination before the party's convention. Democrat Bernie Sanders triumphed over Hillary Clinton but still faces a mathematically difficult path to the White House.

Trump's defeat capped one of the worst periods of his campaign, a brutal stretch that highlighted his weaknesses with women and raised questions about his policy depth. While the billionaire businessman still leads the Republican field, Cruz and an array of anti-Trump forces hope Wisconsin signals the start of his decline.

"Tonight is a turning point," Cruz told cheering supporters at a victory rally. "It is a call from the hardworking people of Wisconsin to America. We have a choice. A real choice."

Cruz, a Texas senator with a complicated relationship with Republican leaders, also cast his victory as a moment for unity in a party that has been roiled by a contentious primary campaign.

But Trump was unbowed. His campaign put out a biting statement: "Ted Cruz is worse than a puppet—he is a Trojan horse, being used by the party bosses attempting to steal the nomination from Mr. Trump."

Sanders's sweeping win in virtually every county in Wisconsin, except Milwaukee, gives him greater incentive to keep competing against Clinton. But he still trails her in the pledged delegate count and has so far been unable to persuade superdelegates—the party officials who can back any candidate—to drop their allegiance to the former secretary of state

and back his campaign.

At a raucous rally in Wyoming, Sanders cast his victory as a sign of mounting momentum for his campaign.

"With our victory tonight is Wisconsin, we have now won 7 out of 8 of the last caucuses and primaries," he declared.

The results in Wisconsin make it likely both parties' primaries will

continue deep into the spring, draping front-runners Trump and Clinton in uncertainty and preventing both from fully setting their sights on the general election. With an overwhelming white electorate and liberal pockets of voters, Wisconsin was favorable territory for Sanders. In a sign of Clinton's low expectations in the Midwestern state, she spent Tuesday night at a fundraiser with top donors in New York City.



Cruz

Panama Papers could add to outrage in presidential race

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—The Panama Papers, which illustrate how a small class of global elites find elaborate ways to shield their wealth from tax collectors, bank regulators and police, offer a glimpse into what's driving the populist outrage that has marked this year's presidential campaign.

The trove of 11.5 million leaked documents have thus far shed light mostly on foreign figures such as the prime minister of Iceland, who resigned Tuesday after the public learned that he used a shell company to shelter large sums of money

while his country's economy foundered.

The reaction in the U.S., meanwhile, has been relatively muted. But voters and experts say the documents validate the frustration felt by Bernie Sanders supporters on the left, who feel hard work is no longer enough to get ahead in America, and the anger of Donald Trump partisans on the right who say it will take someone who knows the insider system to dislodge him.

"We've recently heard the startling revelations about the tax dodge that is taking

place in Panama," Sanders told supporters in Wyoming Tuesday night after his win in the Wisconsin Democratic primary. "In a time of massive income and wealth inequality, how does it happen that you have large, profitable multinational corporations who in a given year pay zero, not a penny, in federal income taxes?"

Retired Wisconsin high school teacher Steve Nibbe, who was voting for the Vermont senator in Tuesday's primary, said word of the documents made him "sit up and take notice." But he said he was not shocked.

Legal pressure may be ahead for law denying service to gays

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—The decision by Mississippi's governor to sign a law that allows religious groups and some private businesses to deny services to gay and transgender people may have headed off gathering opposition in the state's business community, but it could launch the state into litigation.

Saying he was protecting religious freedom, Republican Gov. Phil Bryant signed the bill Tuesday without hesitation or fanfare just hours after it cleared its final legislative obstacle Monday.

According to several supporters, Bryant said increasing pressure from businesses against the law illustrated Mississippi's need for it.

"It shows why we need this bill, so people can not only believe what they believe, but act in accordance with their beliefs and not violate their conscience," said Rep. Andy Gipson, R-Braxton, who helped shepherd the measure through the chamber.

Mississippi, with a slow-growing economy, no Fortune 500 company headquarters and little technology employment, could be less vulnerable than other states to major corporations exerting economic pressure against new laws that began emerging after a U.S. Supreme Court decision last summer that effectively legalized gay marriage nationwide.

Republican Georgia Gov.

Nathan Deal vetoed a similar religious objections bill last week after big companies including Coca-Cola and Delta Air Lines expressed vehement opposition, and national sports organizations hinted that they might hold their important events elsewhere. In North Carolina, where the Republican governor signed a law limiting bathroom options for transgender people and prohibiting local communities from enacting anti-discrimination ordinances, PayPal announced Tuesday that it has canceled a major expansion in the state.

It was unclear whether opponents would seriously push for repeal of the Mississippi law, which is slated to take effect July 1.

Asia

China blasts reports on hidden wealth of leaders' families

BEIJING (AP)—China's Foreign Ministry on Tuesday denounced as "groundless" reports based on documents leaked from a Panama-based law firm that name relatives of current and retired Chinese politicians, including President Xi Jinping, as owning offshore companies.

Spokesman Hong Lei said he would not discuss the reports further and declined to say whether the individuals named would be investigated.

"For these groundless accusations, I have no comment," Hong told reporters at a regularly scheduled news conference.

State media are ignoring reports on the revelations. Search results of websites and

social media for the words "Panama documents" were blocked Tuesday.

The blocking was not total, however, with some searches for Panama-related news resulting in stories mentioning soccer player Lionel Messi and others featured in the documents who are not related to China.

The nationalistic tabloid Global Times published an editorial saying an unidentified "powerful force" was behind the document leak. It said the main targets were opponents of the West, especially Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"The Western media have taken control of the interpretation each time there has been such a document dump, and

Washington has demonstrated particular influence in it. Information that is negative to the U.S. can always be minimized, while exposure of non-Western leaders, such as Putin, can get extra spin," said the newspaper, published by the party's flagship People's Daily.

The paper made no mention of any involvement by Chinese figures.

The reports by an international coalition of media outlets working with the Washington-based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, or ICIJ, are based on documents from the Panama-based law firm Mossack Fonseca, one of the world's biggest creators of shell companies.

As Afghan war escalates, schools forced to close

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—One of Afghanistan's proudest achievements has been getting millions of children, especially girls, back into school since the toppling of the Taliban. But that success is crumbling across the south and in other battleground areas of the country, where hundreds of schools have been forced to shut down.

Sometimes the cause is fighting, sometimes it's intimidation from the Taliban.

Sometimes it's both, as in the case of the Loy Manda high school in southern Helmand province, part of the Taliban heartland. When the Taliban

waged an offensive last winter, the school in the Nad Ali district was caught in the fighting between the militants and Afghan government forces.

"We had six rooms, books, chairs, but now everything is destroyed," said Hekmatallah, the headmaster, who like some Afghans goes by one name.

He's working toward reopening, but he had to get permission from the Taliban or else face their retaliation. They said they would allow it, if only boys attend—no girls—and if they are only taught a curriculum meeting the Taliban's hard-line version of Islam. Taliban mines from

the time of the fighting still surround the school, and government forces are stationed just 40 yards (meters) from the school—a potential target for extremist attack.

Between the damage and the danger, none of the school's 650 students can attend.

That's the fate for an increasing number of children in the battlezone regions of Afghanistan. In 2015, 615 schools in the country's 11 most volatile provinces had to close because of violence, according to the Education Ministry. That was on top of the around 600 schools that remained shut down from the year before in those areas.

Myanmar lawmakers OK new executive post for Suu Kyi

NAYPYITAW, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar's parliament on Tuesday approved the creation of a new post for Aung San Suu Kyi, head of the country's newly installed ruling party, that is similar to prime minister. Suu Kyi is banned by the constitution from becoming president because her children hold foreign citizenship. The bill establishing the position of state counsellor was opposed by the military's representatives in parliament, but passed easily because of the strong majority that Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy won in last November's election. The bill must be signed by President Htin Kyaw, Suu Kyi's close ally, before taking effect. The military representatives, who under the constitution drafted under the former military regime hold 25 percent of parliament's seats, boycotted Tuesday's vote, standing in protest.

Sharif sets up body to probe graft charge against his family

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif announced on Tuesday that he would to set up an independent judicial commission to probe whether his family was involved in illegal overseas investments after

reports based on documents leaked from a Panama-based law firm indicated his sons owned several offshore companies. In a televised address to the nation, Sharif said a retired judge from the Supreme Court of Pakistan will head the commission. "This commission after investigations will decide what is the fact and to what extent the allegations are valid," he said.

China rescuers save 3-year-old boy who fell into well

BEIJING (AP)—Rescuers in eastern China have performed a dramatic televised rescue of a three-year-old boy who fell about 10 meters (33 feet) into a narrow well. The boy had been playing when he slipped and tumbled into the shaft that in total was 90 meters (295 feet) deep in the city of Weifang in Shandong province. Complicating the rescue, the well mouth was only 30 centimeters (11 inches) in diameter. Over two hours on March 31, rescuers pumped in oxygen from canisters and used sensors and cameras to communicate and monitor his condition. He was finally pulled to safety after he grasped a loop at the end of a rope and was declared exhausted but healthy after an examination. China's state television station CCTV broadcast pictures of the rescue.

World

Iceland PM proposes that party's vice chair take over

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP)—Iceland's embattled prime minister, facing accusations of conflict of interest because of offshore accounts, stepped aside Tuesday and proposed that the vice chairman of his party take over.

Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson has become the first major figure brought down by a leak of more than 11 million financial documents from a Panamanian law firm showing the tax-avoidance arrangements of the rich and famous around the world.

Sigurdur Mar Jonsson, press secretary of the Icelandic government, said in a statement Tuesday that Gunnlaugsson has suggested Sigurdur Ingi Johannsson, his Progressive Party's vice-chairman, takes over as prime minister for "an unspecified amount of time."

Iceland's president has not yet confirmed any changes to the leadership and the situation remained muddled as hundreds of protesters gathered outside parliament to demand the ouster of Gunnlaugsson.



This is a Monday April 4, 2016 file photo of Iceland's Prime Minister Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson, as he speaks during a parliamentary session in Reykjavik.

There were contradictions throughout the afternoon and evening as officials first said Gunnlaugsson had resigned as prime minister, statements that were later contradicted by the press secretary's communique, which indicated he was only stepping down for a period of time. The statement also suggested that Gunnlaugsson would remain as party chairman.

It was not clear if new elections would be held or if the governing coalition would be able to weather the

crisis that developed several days ago with the release of the Panama papers.

The lack of a clear resolution angered some protesters who blew whistles and banged on pots and pans in front of parliament.

"I'm here because the government still hasn't resigned," said store manager Elfar Petursson. "The finance minister and the interior minister are still sitting in parliament, they refuse to resign, they both have offshore accounts."

Libya's Tripoli-based government says will 'cease duties'

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—One of Libya's rival governments resigned on Tuesday, a step that helps efforts by a new, U.N.-brokered unity government to assert itself in the capitol, Tripoli, despite opposition from some local militias.

In a statement, the Tripoli-based National Salvation Government said it would "cease duties" as executive authority, and therefore absolve itself of responsibility for the country's fate.

"We put the interests of the nation above anything else, and stress that the bloodshed stop and the nation be saved from division and fragmentation," the statement read.

Western nations view the new government as the best hope for ending Libya's chaos and uniting all factions

against an increasingly powerful Islamic State affiliate, which has seized the central city of Sirte. Another government, based in the eastern city of Tobruk, still opposes the U.N.-backed body.

Libya has been dominated by an array of militias since the 2011 uprising that toppled and killed longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

Tuesday's move came after the European Union slapped sanctions on three Libyan officials, including Prime Minister Khalifa Ghweil of the Islamist-backed government in Tripoli, for what it described as hindering the new unity government from beginning its work. The others sanctioned are Agilah Saleh, parliament head in Tobruk, and Nuri Abu Sahmain, who

leads the outdated General National Congress.

Hassan al-Sgear, the head of Ghweil's office, said Tuesday's decision came after discussions between his office and the Cabinet on ways to stop the bloodshed in Libya's civil war.

The head of the new government, Fayez Serraj, arrived in Tripoli by sea last week to set up a temporary seat of power in a naval base despite threats from competing factions, which prevented him from arriving by air.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry has welcomed Serraj's arrival, as did the U.N. envoy to Libya, Martin Kobler, who was in Tripoli on Tuesday and said he received a warm welcome by a population tired of war.

Mexico City smog alert forces 40 pct of cars off the road

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico City authorities doubled the number of cars that must stay off the streets Wednesday as the city headed into a second day of a pollution alert decreed because smog is at 10 times acceptable limits.

The ban applies to 40 per-

cent of cars in the metropolitan area, or over 2 million cars for the region, which has about 20 million residents.

The city is offering some free bus services and taxi discounts to ease the inconvenience.

Under new rules that began Tuesday and will be in effect through June, gener-

ally one-fifth of the cars are idled every day, but the percentage doubles when pollution is 10 times limits.

Previously, newer or cleaner cars were exempt from the driving ban.

The final digit of a car's license plate numbers determines when it can't be used.

Focus

By TIM SULLIVAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A middle-aged man is walking through a quiet Seoul neighborhood when he suddenly stops. He lights a cigarette, cupping his hands to shield the flame from the winter wind, and takes a deep draw, remembering how things used to be. He's a former policeman, a broad-shouldered man with a growling voice and a crushing handshake.

Back where he came from, he says, he was someone who mattered.

"In North Korea, people were afraid of me," he says. He says it wistfully, almost sadly, like a boy talking about a dog he once had. "They knew I could just drag them away."

That fear meant respect, and bribes, in the North Korean town where he lived, a place where the electricity rarely worked and the Internet was only a rumor. It meant he could buy a TV, and that he had food even as those around him went hungry. It meant that when he grew exhausted by the relentless poverty and oppression around him, and when relatives abroad offered to advance him the money to escape, he had connections to a good smuggler.

Just over a year ago, that smuggler showed him where to slip across a river and into China, on his way to South Korea. His new home is one of the wealthiest and most technologically advanced nations in the world. It has a thriving democracy and a per-capita income at least 12 times larger than the North's. Seoul is a city of infinite shopping choices, glass-fronted office towers and armies of exquisitely dressed businesspeople. He used to dream of the easy life he'd have here.

And what does he think now?

"Sometimes, when my work is too hard, I think about my job as a policeman," says the man, who spoke on condition his name not be used, fearing for the safety of relatives who still live in the North. "I didn't have problems with money back then. I ate what I wanted to eat." He pauses, thinking about his decision to leave: "There are times when I regret it a lot."

Every year, thousands of North Koreans risk imprisonment, or worse, to leave their homeland, many hoping to eventually reach the South. Instead, they often find themselves lost in a nation where



AP
In this March 25, 2016 photo, exiled North Korean Gae-yoon Lee poses for a photo at her home in Seoul, South Korea. Lee, who was raised on a collective farm, left North Korea in 2010 with only a high school diploma. Six years later, she's a published poet who often writes about her childhood and the famine, and is midway through a degree in Korean literature at one of Seoul's top universities.

They flee North Korea, only to be adrift in the South

they thought they'd feel at home, struggling with depression, discrimination, joblessness and their own lingering pride in the repressive nation they left behind. Surveys have shown that up to one-third would return home if they could.

Take the former policeman, an increasingly bitter day laborer who now supports his family hauling bags of cement through the sprawling apartment blocks constantly under construction around Seoul. His hands are rougher than sandpaper now. His fingernails are warped. He sleeps most nights in a dormitory near his latest construction site, just outside the city, only occasionally visiting his wife and the rest of his family, who live in a middle-class Seoul neighborhood.

"I knew that South Korea was a capitalist country, that it was very rich. I thought that if I can just get there, I can work less but earn a lot of money," he says.

He grimaces when he thinks of his naivete.

More than 27,000 North Koreans exiles live in the South, most arriving since a brutal famine tore at the country in the mid-1990s. Government control foundered amid widespread starvation, and security loosened along the border with China. While security has again tightened, nearly 1,300 refugees reached South Korea last year, according to statistics compiled by the

Seoul government. For most, the journey required bribing border guards, life underground in China for months or years, and weeks of travel through still more countries.

They left behind one of the most isolated nations in the world, where the ruling family has been worshipped now for three generations, and only a minuscule elite are allowed to make international phone calls. It has no free press or political opposition. While the famine is over, the country remains very poor, with hunger and malnutrition serious problems.

It's a country where jobs are assigned by the government, but where most families now survive by selling everything from rice to car parts in an ever-growing network of markets. Most North Korean refugees come from collective farms or hardscrabble towns near the Chinese border. Few have more than a high school education.

Tens of thousands of North Koreans are believed to live underground in China. Some stay permanently, while others slip back into the North after earning extra money. For many, though, the lure of a wealthy, Korean-speaking nation is strong, even if refugees' expectations of the South are often shaped less by reality and more by the bootlegged southern soap operas that are wildly popular in the North.

Those who go find themselves living in one of the most brutally competitive countries

in the world, where education is worshipped, toddlers are offered exam-prep classes and a drive for perfection has produced one of the world's highest rates of plastic surgery.

"Life in South Korea is competitive," Hong Yong-pyo, South Korea's minister of unification, said in a recent speech to a group of defectors. "For you to succeed in this competition, you need to push yourself on your own."

But that can be very difficult. Despite government programs that include an immersive three-month program, along with assistance in getting apartments and jobs, the exiles are immediately marked by their accents and their confusion over everything from checking accounts to job applications. Many are noticeably shorter than southerners because of malnutrition, a serious issue in a country that sees height as a measure of attractiveness and success. When it comes to finding work, they have none of the school or hometown connections that are often key here to getting hired, and many South Koreans dismiss them as lazy and difficult.

When they do get jobs, seemingly simple things—such as knowing they need to arrive at work on time—can leave them flummoxed, their pride badly battered.

"It has happened so many times: They show up for work for one or two days, then get

into a fight with their colleagues and quit," says Ahn Kyung-su, a Seoul-based researcher who has spent years working with exiles.

As a result, they remain far less educated than most South Koreans and have far higher rates of unemployment. Their most common profession is unskilled laborer.

Even success doesn't make life easy.

Gae-yoon Lee, who was raised on a collective farm, left North Korea in 2010 with only a high school diploma. Six years later, she's a published poet who often writes about her childhood and the famine, and is midway through a degree in Korean literature at one of Seoul's top universities.

A quiet woman with a stylish purse and braces on her teeth, she finds herself intimidated by southerners' intense focus on success.

"Even between friends, people are always competing here," says Lee, 30. "It can be really stressful to live here."

With an accent that still gives her away as an outsider, she sometimes resorts to pretending she doesn't belong at all.

"There are times when I'm too afraid to be tagged as a North Korean," she says. "So when I'm talking to South Koreans, sometimes I'll use a few English words that I remember so that people think that I'm a foreigner just learning to speak Korean. At that moment, I really want to be a foreigner."

During the first few months after he got to the South, the former policeman thought he might become a cop again, or maybe join the army. But he's too old to be a police recruit, and he says the army turned him down.

Since then, he's tumbled from one job to the next: He trained to be a welder but quit because he wasn't earning enough. He worked in a food-processing factory for a time but says his bosses refused to give him a raise.

"It was because I'm from North Korea," he grumbles.

Since then, there have been stints with at least two construction companies. The pay is bearable, about \$100 a day, more than he made in the North, but his expenses are dramatically higher. Rent, food, subways, clothing—all are far more expensive here. Plus, he's not just supporting his immediate family anymore. He's also channeling cash through underground brokers to relatives still across the border.

"Money," he says at one point. "Money is the problem."

He's hardened since he first reached Seoul. He looks at people suspiciously, goes silent around strangers and often wonders if he's being discriminated against.

He insists, though, that pity is the last thing he wants.

"Whatever you do, don't pray for me," he says.

Environment

New report details effects of climate change on public health

By JACOB BELL

MCCLATCHY WASHINGTON BUREAU

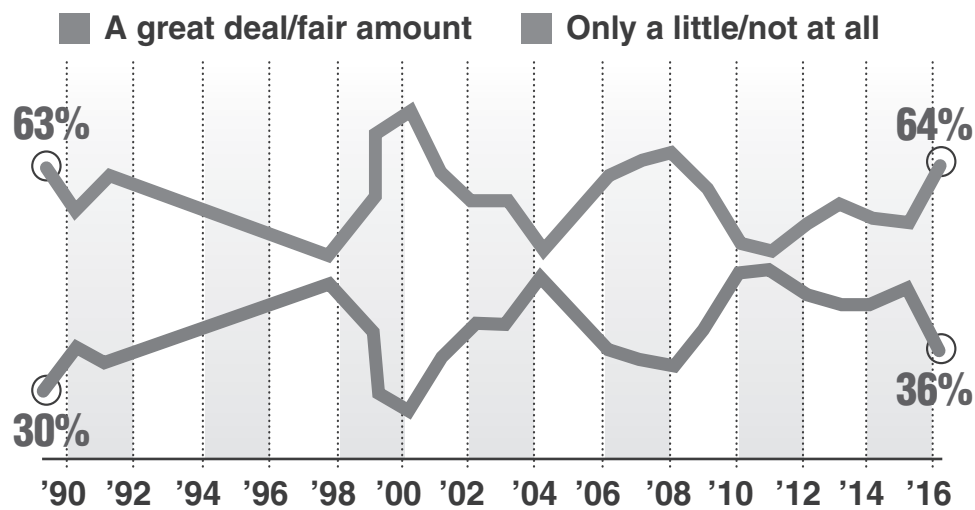
WASHINGTON—Global climate change will lead to hundreds of thousands of deaths and hospitalizations by 2030, a new federal report released Monday predicted, spurring the Obama administration to announce a series of new initiatives aimed at lessening the impact.

"This isn't just about glaciers and the polar bears; it's about the health of our family and our kids," said Gina McCarthy, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, one of eight U.S. agencies that contributed to the report. "To protect ourselves and future generations, we need to understand the health impacts of climate changes that are already happening and those we expect to see down the road."

The report, the result of three years of research by nearly 100 health and science experts, attributed the likelihood of increased deaths and hospitalizations to more air pollution, extreme heat and severe weather brought on by climate change.

At-risk populations in-

How much Americans worry about global warming



Source: Gallup

Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

clude children, the elderly, pregnant women and those who are ill or have disabilities, the report found.

"The assessment finds that every American is vulnerable to the health impacts associated with climate change, but in different combinations and in different places," said John Holdren, President Barack Obama's senior science and

technology adviser. "And the other key is that some are more vulnerable than others."

In response to the report, the Obama administration announced a handful of initiatives that seek to curb those health impacts.

They include employing the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to create climate change and health

curricula for K-12 schools, instituting a national Extreme Heat Week in May to promote extreme-heat preparedness among communities, and establishing a Climate-Ready Tribes and Territories Initiative, which will provide funding for up to five tribal and

territorial governments for the prevention of health issues related to climate change.

The Tribes and Territories Initiative also will give tribes access to advisers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide information on how to adapt to climate change's effects on health.

The White House also added climate change to the list of issues covered by the President's Task Force on Environmental Health and Safety Risks to Children and the Sustainable, which works to protect children from environmental health risks.

The White House will debut a website this month with advice for health care facilities on how to deal with climate change.

The report did not offer specific policy recommendations but rather used data, computer modeling and the analysis of more than 1,800 peer-reviewed publications to outline how global temperature rise might affect public health.

The report noted, for example, that increased carbon

dioxide in the atmosphere can make crops less nutritious. It said natural disasters caused by climate change pose not only physical threats to humans, but also mental health risks.

"What is so striking about the science of this report are the multiple pathways that it lays out through which climate change affects health," said U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy.

"Years ago, we may have thought it was just one or two ways in which climate change actually adversely impacted health, but we now see that there are actually many," Murthy added.

The report comes four months after Obama agreed to a climate change action plan developed at an international climate conference in Paris. The agreement set as a goal capping global temperature rise at 2 degrees Celsius and called for developed countries to donate \$100 billion each year to undeveloped nations so they can adapt to climate change and work toward combating it.

Vietnam warns of dire impact from planned Mekong dams

By STEPHEN WRIGHT

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Research commissioned by Vietnam has warned of devastating environmental and economic effects for millions of people living along the Mekong River if 11 proposed dams are built on its mainstream.

The 2 1/2-year study by Danish water expert DHI was submitted recently by Vietnam to the Mekong River Commission, a body comprising Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos that was set up to mediate the conflicting water priorities of Mekong countries. The commission released a five-page summary of the study to The Associated Press on Tuesday.

It predicts "high to very high adverse effects" on fisheries and agriculture in Cambodia and Vietnam if all 11 dams are built, and even greater damage if the Mekong's tributaries also are dammed. The famed Irrawaddy dolphin would likely disappear from the Mekong, it says.

Unmitigated hydropower

development will cause "long-lasting damage to the floodplains and aquatic environment, resulting in significant reduction in the socioeconomic status of millions of residents," according to the study.

Much of Southeast Asia is suffering a record drought due to El Nino, and officials in Vietnam have said the effects are exacerbated by existing Chinese dams on the upper Mekong. The rice-bowl-sustaining river system flows into Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

The Mekong is also one of the world's largest inland fisheries, providing a livelihood to millions of people. Dams diminish fishing grounds by creating barriers to breeding-cycle migrations and creating river conditions that destroy habitat and food sources.

The study said agricultural production in the lower reaches of the Mekong Delta would drop steeply because the dams would trap river sediments, resulting in large reductions in the volume of nutrients flow-

ing downstream. Less sediment downstream would also make the delta more at risk of saltwater incursion that can render land infertile.

It predicts annual fishery and farming losses of more than \$760 million in Vietnam and \$450 million in Cambodia. Fish catches would drop by 50 percent for Vietnam and Cambodia, and 10 percent of the delta's fish species would either disappear from the region or become extinct. The incomes of fishing and farming villages would likely fall by half.

Laos is behind many of the new dams proposed for the lower Mekong and went ahead with construction of the Xayaburi dam in 2012 despite the concerns of neighboring countries. It wants hydropower exports to become a mainstay of its economy, which is among the least developed in Asia.



The river commission said the Vietnamese report will help its own study, which was commissioned in 2011 and is expected to be completed next year.

In Loving Memory of

† *Rosario Sablan Palacios*

"Charing"

November 13, 1933 - March 31, 2016

Nightly Rosary is being prayed at 8:00 pm at their residence in China Town.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, April 08, 2016.

Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 8:00am to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso Service and Holy Rosary will be held upon her arrival at the Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30am. Interment Service will follow immediately at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Thank You - Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Family

Life & Style

Checking in with 5 former 'American Idol' contestants

LOS ANGELES (AP)—“American Idol” brought pop stardom to just a handful of contestants, but others who competed over the years made an impression.

Many have faded from view, while others parlayed the talent show’s spotlight into ongoing music and other careers in show business. As “American Idol” wraps its 15-year run this Thursday, five former performers shared highlights of how “Entertainment Boot Camp 101”—as one fondly termed the “Idol” experience—helped lead them to today.

MELINDA DOOLITTLE: A professional backup singer in Nashville, Tennessee, before she became a top-three finisher in season six, Doolittle remains loyal to the city and music. She’s traveling internationally with her band and working on an upcoming project—an album and show—that will “represent all the powerful soul songs that



In this May 11, 2007, file photo, Melinda Doolittle, one of finalists from the “American Idol” television program, waves to fans as she rides in a car at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

AP

define the genre of soul.” It’s a chance to collaborate with her favorite artists, she says, but isn’t ready to name names.

DAVID HERNANDEZ:

The seventh-season semifinalist will tour this summer in North America and head to the Middle East to perform for U.S. troops. While de-

scribing himself as a committed balladeer, his new album (not yet titled), produced by Printz Board of the Black Eyed Peas, is pop-and-R&B

influenced: “It’s like Cee Lo Green meets myself.” Board’s production team shot the video for “Beautiful,” the upcoming first single.

BLAKE LEWIS: The Seattle beatboxer, who finished second to season-six winner Jordin Sparks, has parked himself in Los Angeles to pursue music and voice-over work, building on his credits in video games (“The Last Gremlin”) and anime. With his own record label, Lewis is producing other artists as well as music for commercials. He’s toured with fellow

ex-“Idol” contestants as part of the cover band Postmodern Jukebox (“A super fun hang”) and is working on a new beatboxing album.

KIMBERLEY LOCKE: After finishing third in season two, Locke had a hit single with “8th Wonder” and dabbled in TV and modeling. She’s still singing, with a cover of “I Will Survive” out this week, but she’s also building a diverse career portfolio: “I’ve rebranded myself as the artist, the coach, the cook.” She’s on the East Coast working with others on their music projects through her company, I AM Entertainment, teaches singing and has an online show, “Cooking with Kimberley.”

DANNY NORIEGA: The flamboyant semifinalist from season eight, who was lauded by Simon Cowell as courageous, says his career went in “an unexpected direction—good unexpected” after he performed on “RuPaul’s Drag Race.” He’s touring with RuPaul’s “Battle of the Seasons” as Adore, whom he calls his Hannah Montana-like alter ego, and has a new Adore album, “After Party.” Said Noriega: “If you play it smart, fans will grow with you.”

Judge: Porsche not at fault in crash that killed Paul Walker

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The widow of a man driving the Porsche that crashed and killed actor Paul Walker cannot prove the carmaker is responsible for the accident, a federal judge said.

There was not enough evidence in Kristine Rodas’ claims that her husband died because the Porsche Carrera GT he was driving lacked several key safety features, U.S. District Judge Philip S. Gutierrez ruled Monday.

He said there was no evidence the Porsche’s suspension failed before the crash, as Rodas’ lawsuit claimed. She also had alleged the rare sports car lacked a crash cage and fuel cell.

“Plaintiff has provided no competent evidence that Rodas’ death occurred as a result of any wrongdoing on the part of defendant,” Gutierrez wrote.

Walker was riding in the Carrera GT driven by his friend Roger Rodas when the car spun out of control, struck three trees and burst into flames on a street in Santa Clarita in November 2013. Walker was on a break from filming the seventh installment of the “Fast & Furious” franchise when he died.

The ruling has no bearing on two other cases against Porsche filed by Walker’s daughter and father, which are



This March 21, 2013 file photo shows U.S. actor Paul Walker wearing a creation from the Colcci summer collection at Sao Paulo Fashion Week in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

AP

both pending in Los Angeles Superior Court.

Meadow Walker’s attorney said in a statement that while Rodas was killed instantly in the crash, Walker was still alive when the car caught fire.

“Meadow will continue the fight to hold Porsche accountable for selling a defective

product that kills,” attorney Jeff Milam wrote.

Porsche has denied wrongdoing in the design, manufacture or marketing of the Carrera GT. The company also contended in the lawsuit by Walker’s daughter that the car had been altered and improperly maintained and that those

factors contributed to the crash.

An email to Porsche seeking comment was not immediately returned Tuesday.

An investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and California Highway Patrol concluded that unsafe speed, not mechanical problems, caused the crash. Investigators said the Porsche was going up to 94 mph (151 kph) when it crashed.

Engineers from Porsche, who evaluated the wreckage of the rare car, helped in the investigation.

All the cases against Porsche contend the car was going much slower before it spun out of control. The Walkers’ suits say the vehicle was traveling between 63 and 71 mph (101 to 114 kph).

Kristine Rodas sued over the crash in May 2014. Her attorney, Mark Geragos, said Tuesday that the ruling will be appealed.

Gutierrez faulted Rodas’ expert for initially relying on an analysis of tire marks taken a month and a half after the fatal crash rather than photos investigators took at the scene.

After Walker’s death, his two brothers helped complete action scenes in “Furious 7,” which earned more than \$1.5 billion globally when it was released in April.

Actress can pay fine or appear in court over Sedona carving

SEDONA, Ariz. (AP)—Authorities say actress Vanessa Hudgens can pay a fine and restitution or appear in court for allegedly carving a heart into red rock in Sedona two months ago.

Hudgens posted a photo of the carving, bearing the names Vanessa and Austin, on her Instagram around Valentine’s Day.

It was brought to the attention of the Coconino National Forest, which manages land around Sedona renowned for the towering red rocks. Damaging a natural feature on U.S. Forest Service land is a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail and a maximum \$5,000 fine.

Forest Service officials said

Tuesday that they contacted Hudgens, who “was cooperative in providing the specific location” of the carving.

They referred the investigation results to the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Flag-

staff, which set a potential hearing date and contacted Hudgens.

Authorities say her options are to accept the agreement and pay an undisclosed fine and restitution or appear in court to answer to the misdemeanor violations of defacing and/or damaging natural features.

The 27-year-old Hudgens is best known for her role as Gabriella Montez in the “High School Musical” television show and movie.



Hudgens

Nielsen says 14.2 million watched 'Dead' cliffhanger

NEW YORK (AP)—A cliffhanger ending to its sixth season fascinated more than 14 million viewers of "The Walking Dead," although AMC's blockbuster hit continued to show some signs of erosion.

During the final episode on Sunday, new villain Negan killed someone with a barbed wire bat he named Lucille. Viewers will have to wait until next season to find out who he killed, however.

It was down from the 15.8 million who watched the fifth season finale on the night it aired, and didn't approach the 17.3 million who watched

the first episode of the fifth season in October 2014—the show's high point.

It's not unusual for hit shows to begin to fade after they have been on the air for a couple of years. A more complete barometer of the show's performance will come in a few weeks, when the number of people who watched it via delayed viewing are counted in.

In its first year on cable's TBS on Monday night, an estimated 17.8 million people watched Villanova's last-second victory over North Carolina for the NCAA men's basketball champion-



In this image released by AMC, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, standing left, and kneeling from left, Danai Gurira, Michael Cudlitz, Andrew Lincoln and Sonequa Martin-Green appear in a scene from "The Walking Dead." Sunday's cliffhanger ending to its sixth season fascinated more than 14 million viewers.

ship. That's sharply down from the 28.3 million people who saw last year's Duke-Wisconsin game on CBS, the Nielsen company said. It shows that broadcast TV still has an advantage over cable networks although, to be fair, last year's game was the most-watched NCAA final since 1997.

The Academy of Country Music awards saw its viewership take a steep drop— from 16 million last year to 11.2 million Sunday night on CBS, Nielsen said.

CBS won the week in prime time, averaging 7.9 million

viewers. NBC had 6 million viewers, ABC had 4.8 million, Fox had 4 million, Univision had 1.8 million, the CW had 1.5 million, ION Television had 1.24 million and Telemundo had 1.23 million.

Buoyed by Saturday's NCAA basketball semifinals, TBS was the week's most popular cable network, averaging 2.55 million viewers in prime time. AMC had 1.96 million viewers, Fox News Channel had 1.82 million, HGTV had 1.66 million and USA had 1.53 million.

NBC's "Nightly News" topped the evening news-

casts with an average of 8.6 million viewers. ABC's "World News Tonight" was second with 8.2 million and the "CBS Evening News" had 7 million viewers.

For the week of March 28-April 3, the top 10 shows, their networks and viewerships: "The Big Bang Theory," CBS, 14.24 million; "The Walking Dead," AMC, 14.19 million; "Empire," Fox, 12.46 million; "Dancing With the Stars," ABC, 11.95 million; "The Voice" (Monday), NBC, 11.36 million; "Little Big Shots," NBC, 11.33 million;

"Academy of Country Music Awards," CBS, 11.2 million; "The Voice" (Tuesday), NBC, 11.1 million; "Blue Bloods," CBS, 10.4 million; "NCIS," CBS, 10.38 million.

Nielsen's top programs for March 28-April 3

NEW YORK (AP)—Prime-time viewership numbers compiled by Nielsen for March 28-April 3. Listings include the week's ranking and viewership.

1. "The Big Bang Theory," CBS, 14.24 million.
2. "The Walking Dead," AMC, 14.19 million.
3. "Empire," Fox, 12.46 million.
4. "Dancing With the Stars," ABC, 11.95 million.
5. "The Voice" (Monday), NBC, 11.36 million.
6. "Little Big Shots," NBC, 11.33 million.
7. "Academy of Country Music Awards," CBS, 11.2 million.
8. "The Voice" (Tuesday), NBC, 11.1 million.
9. "Blue Bloods," CBS, 10.4 million.
10. "NCIS," CBS, 10.38 million.
11. NCAA Final Four: North Carolina vs. Syracuse, TBS, 10.15 million.
12. "60 Minutes," CBS, 9.53 million.
13. "Criminal Minds," CBS, 9.18 million.
14. "Survivor," CBS, 9.16 million.
15. "American Idol" (Thursday), Fox, 9.11 million.
16. "NCIS: Los Angeles," CBS, 8.9 million.
17. "NCIS: New Orleans," CBS, 8.89 million.
18. "Scorpion," CBS, 8.72 million.
19. "Chicago Med," NBC, 8.7 million.
20. "Chicago Fire," NBC, 8.66 million.

Tina Fey talks 'Bossypants' and other books, zings Talese

NEW YORK (AP)—Even for someone as loved as Tina Fey, a reported \$6 million advance seemed like a lot of money for a book of essays.

But five years after its publication, "Bossypants" has sold 3.75 million copies, according to Little, Brown and Co. And it confirmed a market for smart, funny nonfiction such as Amy Poehler's "Yes Please" and Mindy Kaling's "Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?"

In an email interview Tuesday with The Associated Press, Fey discussed "Bossypants" and some books she has enjoyed recently. She also had a few words for author-journalist Gay Talese, who said last weekend that he could think of no women journalists who inspired him when he was young.

Q: When the book was first published, what were your expectations?



Fey

A: My goal was just to avoid humiliation. After years of writing character-based comedy in a group process with other writers, a book "about me written by me alone" made me feel panicky and vulnerable. I kept telling my husband, "This is going to ruin me."

Q: Why do you think it has done so well, beyond, of course, your fame and the quality of the writing?

A: It's also edible. Well, I guess all books are if you're hungry enough.

Q: Any books you'd like to recommend that you've read lately?

A: I enjoyed Diane Von Furstenberg's autobiography. I loved "Americanah" by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. I'm currently reading "Dinosaurs in the Attic"—non-fiction about the American Museum of Natural History. Nothing by Gay Talese has moved me.

Drake releases new song featuring Jay Z and Kanye West

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Drake released two new songs to iTunes on Tuesday, including one that features both Jay Z and Kanye West called "Pop Style."

Jay Z and West are credited on the song as "The Throne," a likely ref-

erence to their 2011 collaboration, "Watch the Throne."

The new music from the Toronto rapper-actor—a hint at more music to come—also includes "One Dance," featuring Wizkid and Kyla.

Drake's last album, "If You're Reading This It's Too Late," debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 last year.

Representatives for Drake didn't immediately respond to a message seeking comment.

Visiting relatives could pay dearly for generous hospitality

DEAR ABBY: I'm wondering how to approach a situation following a visit with some relatives. We enjoyed a wonderful visit and they were very nice to put us up in their guest room. A few days into our stay, I woke up with strange and very itchy bites on my legs and shoulders. When I mentioned it to our host, she quickly supplied me with some itch cream and changed the subject.

After we returned home, we met a few of our relatives and they mentioned that this particular household was experiencing a bed bug problem. I was shocked and a little hurt that they didn't mention the infestation or warn us ahead of time.

We're in the process of making sure we didn't bring any of these critters home, but if we must hire an exterminator or replace furniture, we will be in a bind financially. What would be the proper way to address this, and should our host feel some responsibility for what costs we may have to incur?

ITCHY AND IRRITATED IN ILLINOIS

DEAR ITCHY: That these relatives would knowingly allow you to stay in a room they knew was infested with "critters" is appalling. Could they have been too embarrassed to speak up?

If you must replace rugs, mattresses, bedding, etc., ask

them to reimburse you. If they refuse, you could take them to small claims court and get a judgment IF you could prove you picked the bugs up there. But first you should let your relatives know that other family members told you about their "sin of omission." In the future, if you plan to visit this couple again, stay elsewhere. Once bitten, twice shy.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "George" for 20 years. We have a solid relationship except for one thing that drives me crazy: He insists on having his ex-wife cut his hair.

I have told him over and over that I really dislike it and I wish he would go elsewhere, but he refuses. Now he's going behind my back and waiting for me to notice that he's had a haircut. He used to at least tell me beforehand. It would take an entire column to describe her past behavior, but it's not all that different from many exes.

I think what he's doing is disrespectful to me. I would never continue doing something he asked me not to if it bothered him. There are a lot of hairstylists in this town, and her haircuts aren't that great. Am I being unreasonable?

BOTHERED IN IDAHO

DEAR BOTHERED: Your husband has been doing this

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



for 20 years and you are only writing to me about it now? Because it bothers you, the next time he goes over to get his hair cut, volunteer to go with him. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em — and maybe get a manicure in the process.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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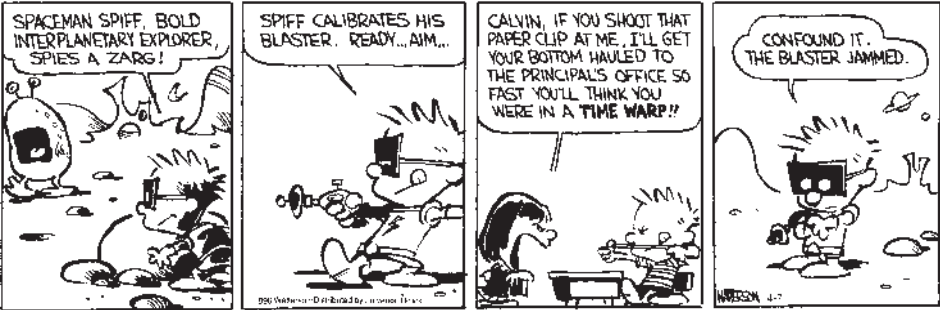
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

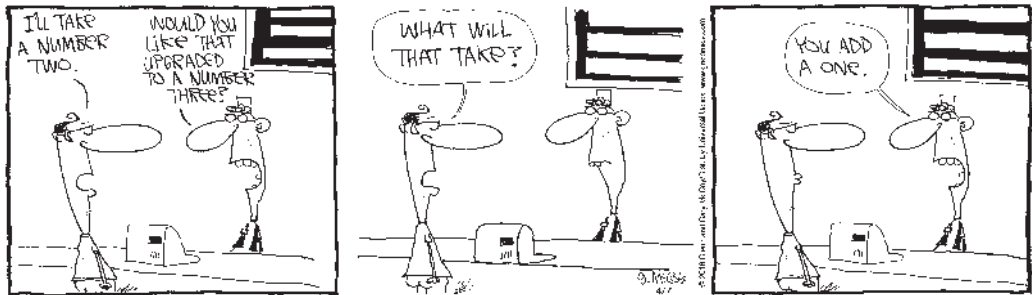


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Greyhound vehicle

4 Skillets

8 Paraphernalia

12 Bat wood

13 Met melody

14 Singer Guthrie

15 Geneticist's study

17 Bart's sister

18 Goof up

19 California's — Valley

21 Burrowing critter

24 Up to, briefly

25 "Awesome!"

26 Try the tea

28 Green sauce

32 Sandwich cookie

34 Gullet

36 Elevator name

37 Shopping binge

39 "Of course"

41 Hosp. areas

42 Rep.'s rival

44 Sound system

46 Popular pizza chain

50 Have bills

51 Per person

52 One way to purchase

56 Carvey or Delany

57 Appear ominously

58 Swiss canton

59 Airline to Tel Aviv

60 "— Named Sue"

61 Vigor

DOWN

1 "Humbug!"

2 Exploit

3 Document

4 San Diego team

5 "Exodus" hero

6 Little lice

7 "— isn't so!"

8 Italian astronomer

9 Idle of Monty Python

10 Too

11 Reddish horse

16 Work unit

20 Back talk

21 Family biz abbr.

22 50-and-over org.

23 Edge

27 Salary

29 Stockpiled

30 Ersatz swing

31 — buco

33 Like a certain complex

35 Director Craven

38 Poetic dusk

40 Inclement

43 Do-re-mi

45 Ram's mate

46 Florida county

47 Milky gem

48 "— Lisa"

49 Uppity sort

53 Bill's partner

54 Hot temper

55 Bit of advice

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterdays answer 4-7

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Russell Crowe, 52; Jackie Chan, 62; John Oates, 67; Francis Ford Coppola, 77.

Happy Birthday: This is a year for learning and implementing the knowledge and skills you acquire in unique and trendy ways. Your insight and drive will give you the courage to forge ahead with confidence. Your mindset will be that of a winner, and your dreams, hopes and wishes are all within reach. Love is encouraged, and personal plans can be put into motion. Your numbers are 6, 18, 20, 27, 32, 44, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Face emotional issues, and clear up pressing matters that could hinder your ability to focus. You'll come up with reasonable solutions if you are understanding and remain calm. Make plans to share something you enjoy doing with someone special. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Choose quality over quantity. An opportunity to work at something you enjoy doing will be made available. Getting along with your peers will help you gain respect and clout. A money matter is best handled privately. Don't share personal information. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Do something that will make you feel good. Good fortune could result from doing something unexpected for someone you love. You can form a closer relationship if you surprise someone with a romantic rendezvous. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep your emotions under control. Handle situations with diplomacy. Keep unique alter-

natives in mind in order to offset anything you may not like. Try not to make a fuss if you encounter difficulties. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't let your ego get in your way. Concentrate on what's truly important and put your differences aside. There is no point in arguing when your energy should be put into taking action and getting things done. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll have some great ideas to share with your peers. Working as a team will bring results that exceed your expectations. Be liberal with your ideas and conservative with your spending, and you'll reach a happy balance. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A partnership will help you explore new territory. Taking a vacation or just enjoying time with someone special will open your mind to an alternative lifestyle. Let passion take over and romance lead the way. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Look for something that stands out, and you will find a workable solution. Your keen perception and understanding will give you an advantage when dealing with relationships. Seeing all sides of a situation will help you gain support. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Stay active. Your involvement in physical challenges will require enthusiasm and the will to succeed. Don't underestimate your competition. Put everything you've got into winning. A romantic evening will be celebratory. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take one step at a time. Ease into any situation you face involving friends, family or community discussions. If you want to bring about change, do so by offering a solid plan as well as incentives. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do something that will update your look or help you set a trend. Your desire to experiment will be appealing to someone who wants to be more like you. Enjoy the compliments and plan something romantic with someone you love. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep your story straight. It's important not to deviate from the truth and to allow others the benefit of the doubt. Simple and straightforward dealings will bring the best results. Protect your reputation. ***

Birthday Baby: You are brave, bold and beautiful. You are entertaining, encouraging and motivated.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★

4/107

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6 7 2 5 8 1 4 9 3

8 4 9 3 7 6 1 5 2

1 3 5 2 4 9 7 8 6

9 1 3 8 5 7 6 2 4

7 6 4 9 1 2 5 3 8

5 2 8 4 6 3 9 7 1

2 8 1 6 9 5 3 4 7

3 9 6 7 2 4 8 1 5

4 5 7 1 3 8 2 6 9

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

NEW YORK'S MADISON AVENUE Solution: 7 letters

M L E O N I T N E L A V C J N

A A F I A G A B B A N A W D

N M D I I G C H L O E C O E R

H O E I N L R E D S A T D E A

A N E R S O T O R D D L U U V

T T N E I O L E I I I R S N E

T B E W H C N O M G O A E L

A L H O E G A T C P N B L V U

N A T T I R R N E A A I O A O

L N A S M U E A W R R L N V B

O C E A O W N A N A M T A I L

C D N C Y N I E L K Z I I C D

N I F O T A Y L O R L A N E E

I E R D I S T R I C T I L A R

L K R I Z I A S P A D A R P L

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American, Armani, Athenee, Avenue, Barneys, Boulevard, Cartier, Chloe, Colonial, Designers, Dining, District, Dolce, European, Gabbana, Gilded, Giorgio, Hotel, Jacadi, Klein, Krizia Spa, Lefcourt, Lincoln, Madison, Manhattan, MetLife, Midtown, Montblanc, New York, Palace, Plaza, Prada, Salon, Taylor, Terminal, Tower, Valentino, Wang

Yesterday's Answer: Hey Joe

To purchase the WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2, order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

STUMPED?

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Saipan Tribune

WHATZIT Solution: Come out with your hands up

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- In-Service training with Baxter Phoenix machine

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick-up application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on April 21, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call (670) 234-2905, ext. 128.



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- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Must be flexible with time schedule.

Interested application must submit resume or pick up an application at Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan.

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Timberwolves shock Warriors in overtime



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—The Golden State Warriors hit an unexpected obstacle on their quest for a record 73 wins, blowing a 17-point lead and losing 124-117 in overtime to the last-place Minnesota Timberwolves on Tuesday night.

Shabazz Muhammad scored a career-high 35 points and Andrew Wiggins had 32 as Minnesota prevented Golden State (69-9) from becoming the second team to win 70 games in a season. The Warriors now must win their final four games to break the single-season wins record of 72 set by Chicago in 1995-96.

Stephen Curry had a rare off-shooting night as Golden State took its third loss against a team currently in last place in its division, following earlier defeats at Milwaukee in December and last month at the Los Angeles Lakers.

But this one came at home, where the Warriors had won a record 54 straight regular-season games before falling to Boston last Friday.

Klay Thompson scored 28 points, while Curry had 21 points and 15 assists despite missing 18 of 25 shots for the Warriors, who never led in the overtime.

Wiggins scored Minnesota's first six points of the extra session to give the Timberwolves their first lead since the first quarter. Muhammad drew the sixth foul on Draymond Green and made both foul shots to make it 114-109.

Spurs 88, Jazz 86

In Salt Lake City, Kawhi Leonard made the go-ahead jumper with 4.9 seconds left



and scored 18 points as the San Antonio Spurs beat the Utah Jazz 88-86 on Tuesday night, giving Tim Duncan his 1,000th regular-season victory.

Rodney Hood missed the potential winning 3-pointer at the buzzer as Utah fell a half-game behind Dallas for seventh place in the Western Conference. The Jazz remained in the No. 8 slot and a half-game ahead of the Houston Rockets.

LaMarcus Aldridge and Manu Ginobili each added 14 points in the Spurs' franchise-record 65th victory. They visit Golden State on Thursday.

Thunder 124, Nuggets 102

In Denver, Russell Westbrook had 13 points, 14 rebounds

and 12 assists to become the first player with 17 triple-doubles in a season in 27 years, and Oklahoma City routed Denver.

Westbrook has the highest total since Magic Johnson had 17 for the Los Angeles Lakers in 1988-89. Westbrook, who had seven in March while winning Western Conference player of the month honors, has 35 in his career, which is second behind LeBron James for most among active players.

Kevin Durant had 26 points and eight assists for Oklahoma City.

Raptors 96, Hornets 90

In Toronto, DeMar DeRozan scored 26 points, Kyle Lowry

had 12 of his 21 in the fourth quarter and Toronto handed Charlotte back-to-back losses for the first time in more than two months.

Jonas Valanciunas had 12 points and 12 rebounds and Corey Joseph added 11 points, including two key free throws in the closing seconds, as the Raptors won for the third time in four games.

Grizzlies 108, Bulls 92

In Memphis, Zach Randolph had 27 points and 10 rebounds, Vince Carter added 17 points and Memphis snapped a six-game losing streak by beating Chicago.

Memphis used a strong defense missing in recent games to turn back the Bulls, who had won three of four. Chi-

cago never got the deficit under double digits in the fourth quarter of a loss that damaged its playoff hopes.

Matt Barnes scored 16 points for Memphis, and Jordan Farmar had 15.

Cavaliers 109, Bucks 80

In Milwaukee, J.R. Smith scored 21 points and went 7 of 11 from 3-point range to lead hot-shooting Cleveland over Milwaukee.

Kevin Love added 17 points and shot 3 of 6 from behind the arc for the Cavaliers, who maintained a 3 1/2-game lead over Toronto for the best record in the Eastern Conference.

LeBron James finished with 17 points and shot 7 of 9 from the field to go with nine assists. He watched the entire fourth quarter from the bench on an easy night for Cleveland, which led by 24 by half-time.

Heat 107, Pistons 89

In Miami, Goran Dragic scored 22 points to lead six Miami players in double figures, Dwyane Wade added 16 and the Heat beat Detroit.

Josh Richardson also had 16 for Miami (45-32), which remained in fifth place in the airtight Eastern Conference playoff race. No. 3 Atlanta (46-32) beat Phoenix on Tuesday, No. 4 Boston (45-32) was idle but holds the tiebreaker over the Heat and No. 6 Charlotte (44-33) lost in Toronto to fall a game behind Miami.

Hawks 103, Suns 90

In Atlanta, Jeff Teague scored 20 points, Kent Bazemore added 17 and Atlanta rallied from 13 down in the third

quarter to beat Phoenix. Atlanta avoided its first three-game losing streak since Feb. 19-22 and moved one-half game ahead of idle Boston for third place in the Eastern Conference.

The Hawks began the night with a one-half game lead in the Southeast Division with Miami and Charlotte.

Sixers 107, Pelicans 93

In Philadelphia, Carl Landry scored 22 points to lead Philadelphia to a 107-93 victory over the injury-depleted New Orleans Pelicans on Tuesday night, ensuring that the 76ers won't tie their own league record for fewest victories in an 82-game season.

Philadelphia improved to 10-68 and now is one win clear of the 1972-73 76ers, who set an NBA mark for futility with a 9-73 mark. The 76ers have four games remaining.

Clippers 103, Lakers 84

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul scored 25 points and the Los Angeles Clippers defeated the Lakers on Tuesday night, beating their Staples Center co-tenants for the 10th straight time in Kobe Bryant's last game as a visitor in his home arena.

Jeff Green added 21 points off the bench for the Clippers, whose franchise-record victory streak over the Lakers is their second-longest active run against any opponent.

Bryant scored six points on 2-of-12 shooting following a 34-point performance in a loss to Boston on Sunday.

Trail Blazers 115, Kings 107

In Sacramento, CJ McCollum made five 3-pointers and scored 30 points to lead the Portland Trail Blazers to a victory over the Sacramento Kings on Tuesday night.

Damien Lillard had 22 points and eight assists as Portland won for the fifth time in six games and remained a half-game behind Memphis for fifth place in the Western Conference. The Grizzlies beat the Bulls earlier.

Maurice Harkless had season-highs of 20 points and 16 rebounds, Gerald Henderson scored 13 points and Mason Plumlee had 12 points and nine rebounds.

UConn beats 'Cuse for 4th straight national title

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Breanna Stewart and UConn stood out. Geno Auriemma, too, after another flawless season by the dominating Huskies.

UConn won an unprecedented fourth straight national championship Tuesday night, capping another perfect season by routing Syracuse 82-51. Until now, only the UCLA men's team had won four in a row in Division I, rolling to seven consecutive championships under John Wooden from 1967-73. With Tuesday's victory, Auriemma passed the Wizard of Westwood with his 11th national title.

Peerless again. Perfect again.

"What those 11 championships mean to me is how many great players I've had the opportunity to coach," Auriemma

said. "How many great people have come through the program. It doesn't matter whose name is above, or whose name I'm under. As long as I have those players in my memory, I'm good."

Stewart said when she came to campus four years ago that she wanted to win four titles. She delivered on that promise by scoring 24 points and grabbing 10 rebounds in the final game of her brilliant college career.

"It's unbelievable," Stewart said. "That was our goal coming in here once we were freshman and to carry it out and win like this as seniors is unbelievable."

Stewart and her fellow seniors Morgan Tuck and Moriah Jefferson posed on the ladder after cutting down the

net for the final time. Mission accomplished.

"It wasn't a sense of relief, it was a sense of success. This is exactly what we wanted," Stewart said. "Going into every one of our national championship runs, we were confident and that's what we were tonight, confident. We made history and to be able to say that we did that with those two guys, we're going to remember that forever."

The Huskies (38-0) have been nearly unbeatable since Stewart arrived. They lost four games her freshman year and only one since. The win over Syracuse was the 75th straight for UConn, all by double figures. Stewart and her fellow seniors went 24-0 in NCAA tourney games, too.



New slide rule helps Rays hold off Blue Jays



ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Base-

ball's new rule on breaking up double plays gave Logan Forsythe and Tampa Bay a disputed victory over Toronto.

With the bases loaded and one out in the ninth inning, Toronto slugger Edwin Encarnacion hit a grounder to third. After taking a throw from Evan Longoria for the force at second, Forsythe made an errant relay to first that appeared to allow the go-ahead run to score for the Blue Jays.

Rays manager Kevin Cash asked for a replay review, claiming Jose Bautista violated the new "Chase Utley Rule" governing slides on potential double plays.

Replay umpires in New York ruled Bautista's slide was not directly into the bag and it illegally hindered Forsythe. The call was changed to a game-ending double play that preserved Tampa Bay's victory.

Blue Jays manager John Gibbons argued with umpires on the field before finally heading toward the clubhouse.

Forsythe hit a two-run homer in the eighth off Brett Cecil (0-1) that ended the reliever's run of 38 straight appearances without allowing an earned run, dating to June 24.

should have been called out for running on the fair side of the foul line, causing Betances (0-1) to throw the ball over Teixeira for an error.

Mets 2, Royals 0

In Kansas City, Noah Syndergaard pitched six dominant innings, Neil Walker hit his first homer with the Mets and New York beat Kansas City after the Royals were given their 2015 World Series rings.

Syndergaard (1-0) was the only pitcher to beat the Royals in the World Series last year, winning Game 3 after intentionally throwing his first pitch above Alcides Escobar's head, which angered the Royals.

Pirates 6, Cardinals 5, 11 innings

In Pittsburgh, Jordy Mercer singled home Gregory Polanco from second base with one out in the 11th inning to lift Pittsburgh over St. Louis.

Polanco, who agreed to a \$35 million, five-year contract earlier in the day, drew a walk from Seth Maness (0-1) and made it to second on Josh Harrison's infield single. Mercer slapped a single to right for his fourth career game-ending hit.

Kyle Lobstein (1-0) pitched two innings for the win, and Andrew McCutchen had three hits for the Pirates.

Red Sox 6, Indians 2

In Cleveland, David Price struck out 10 and won his weather-delayed debut for Boston, and David Ortiz hit a two-run homer Tuesday to lead the Red Sox to a 6-2 win over the Cleveland Indians, who pushed back their season opener a day because of wintry conditions.

Price (1-0) gave up two runs and five hits in six innings, giving the Red Sox an immediate payoff after they signed the left-hander to a \$217 million, seven-year contract.

Ortiz began his farewell season with a bang, connecting for his 504th homer in the ninth. Big Papi tied Hall of Famer Eddie Murray for 26th place on the career list. Ortiz also doubled.

Astros 5, Yankees 3

In New York, a freezing opening day at Yankee Stadium turned on a play that caused a hot argument.

Carlos Correa reached on an eighth-inning dribbler that Dellin Betances threw over first baseman Mark Teixeira as Jose Altuve scored the tie-breaking run, and Houston beat New York to win four straight openers for the first time in franchise history.

Yankees manager Joe Girardi argued with plate umpire Dana DeMuth that Correa

Giants 2, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Johnny Cueto pitched seven solid innings to win his San Francisco debut against Milwaukee.

Cueto (1-0) was the centerpiece of the Giants' offseason rotation overhaul when he signed a \$130 million, six-year deal after winning a championship with Kansas City. The right-hander scattered six hits and struck out four, winning his seventh straight against Milwaukee.

Brandon Crawford homered for the Giants and saved a run with a sharp defensive play at shortstop. Santiago Casilla got three outs for his first save.

Tigers 8, Marlins 7, 11 innings

In Miami, Ian Kinsler homered and had four RBI, including a run-scoring single in the 11th inning, and Detroit overcame a ninth-inning meltdown to beat Miami on a wild opening day.

The Tigers led 5-0 and Justin Verlander didn't allow a hit until the sixth inning, but new closer Francisco Rodriguez gave up three runs in the ninth, including two-out RBI doubles to pinch-hitter Derek Dietrich and Dee Gordon.

Mariners 10, Rangers 2

In Arlington, Nelson Cruz



AP

Toronto Blue Jays shortstop Troy Tulowitzki forces out Tampa Bay Rays' Desmond Jennings (8) at second base on a ball hit by Brad Miller during the second inning of a baseball game Tuesday, April 5, 2016, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Padres for the second straight game, 3-0 Tuesday night.

Kazmir (1-0) and relievers Pedro Baez, Chris Hatcher and Kenley Jansen combined to retire 26 of the final 27 batters.

Diamondbacks 11, Rockies 6

In Phoenix, Shelby Miller was often hurt by a lack of run support last season in Atlanta.

On Tuesday night, he saw it could be a lot different pitching for the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Paul Goldschmidt drove in four runs with a solo homer and a bases-loaded triple, and the Diamondbacks stormed back from a four-run deficit to beat the Colorado Rockies 11-6.

Cubs 6, Angels 1

In Anaheim, last season, Jon Lester brought to the Chicago Cubs an impressive resume that included the two World Series rings he won with the Boston Red Sox in 2007 and 2013.

Now he is trying to help lead the team with baseball's longest championship drought to its first pennant since 1945.

Lester pitched seven strong innings in his season debut and the Cubs got home runs from Anthony Rizzo, Dexter Fowler and Matt Szczur in a 6-1 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Tuesday night.

hit one of four Seattle homers, fellow former Texas player Leonys Martin had a tiebreaking double and the Mariners bounced back from an opening day loss to beat the Rangers.

Scott Servais, who spent six years in player development with Texas, got his first win as a manager while having a shouting match with reigning AL Manager of the Year Jeff

Banister.

The pair exchanged words after former Seattle reliever Tim Lincecum hit Chris Iannetta with a pitch. Wilhelmson, who was ejected, had just given up the second of two homers along with two doubles without getting an out in a six-run Seattle eighth.

Dodgers 3, Padres 0

In San Diego, the Los Ange-

les Dodgers' pitching staff is off to a great start after two games, with Scott Kazmir matching Clayton Kershaw with one-hit efforts.

Not surprisingly, then, San Diego is the only team in the majors that hasn't scored a run.

Scott Kazmir combined with three relievers on a two-hitter to win his first start with the Dodgers, who shut out the

McIlroy brings a new approach to his quest for Grand Slam

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)—Rory McIlroy stood on the 17th green, waving his arms this way and that.

Then he feigned a jump shot for England's Matthew Fitzpatrick, recreating the NCAA men's basketball championship game from the night before.

"He was explaining what happened," Fitzpatrick said after they wrapped up their Masters practice round Tuesday. "It was an exciting finish, apparently."

Indeed it was, as Villanova swished a winning 3-pointer at the buzzer.

"Unbelievable," McIlroy said. "Ridiculous."

He's hoping for some theatrics of his own at Augusta National.

Maybe a new approach will help.

With a career Grand Slam again in his grasp, the 26-year-old from Northern Ireland changed his preparation for the first major of the year. Instead of arriving early, he didn't play his first practice round until Monday. He also tried to take a more competitive approach, replicating a match-play format his first time around the course, the 3-and-2 victory over Chris Wood clinched by a hole-in-one at the 16th. That was followed by a four-ball match on Tuesday.

"I've hit it off pine straw this week," McIlroy said. "Hit it out of the rough, fairway bunkers, bunker shots. You get more of a feel of how

the course is actually going to play and especially from certain areas that you wouldn't normally hit out of in a practice round. I'm just trying to play at more like it is a tournament round."

At the 18th hole, he yanked his second shot into the patrons left of the green.

"Sorry," McIlroy said sheepishly as he walked up to his ball.

Then he chipped it right next to the flag, the gallery roaring its approval.

For McIlroy, this is all part of a new plan to become just the sixth player to capture the modern version of the Grand Slam. He's already won the U.S. Open, the British Open, and a pair of PGA Championships. The Masters is the only

thing standing between him and the exclusive club that includes Gene Sarazen, Ben Hogan, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player and Tiger Woods.

McIlroy took his first shot at the Slam a year ago, only to be derailed by a sluggish start. He fought back to a tie for fourth at 12-under 276, his best finish ever at Augusta, but wasn't really a threat to winner Jordan Spieth.

In hindsight, he acknowledges being a little overwhelmed by the moment.

"I think part of that was having so much expectation and thinking of the Grand Slam and thinking of the Masters and thinking of all this, whereas I needed to just take a step back and relax and go out and try and play my own game," McIlroy said.



FIFA head Infantino defends reputation after media reports

GENEVA (AP)—FIFA president Gianni Infantino has defended his reputation after reports that he signed a Champions League broadcasting contract in 2006 with an offshore registered marketing agency implicated last year in the FIFA bribery scandal.

The contract, which Infantino co-signed as UEFA's then-legal director, was leaked from the database of a Panama-based law firm, Mossack Fonseca, the British daily The Guardian and the BBC reported on Tuesday.

"I am dismayed and will not accept that my integrity is being doubted by certain areas of the media," Infantino said in a statement published by FIFA, which he was elected to lead six weeks ago.

The UEFA contract reportedly co-signed by Infantino sealed a three-year deal for TV rights in Ecuador for the Champions League to Cross Trading.

That company is a subsidiary of a group owned by Argentine marketing executives Hugo and Mariano Jinkis, who were indicted last year by American federal prosecutors investigating a bribery and money laundering conspiracy in international soccer.

Infantino said Tuesday he "never personally dealt with Cross Trading nor their own-



FIFA President Gianni Infantino, left, seen here talking to Colombia's Soccer Federation President Ramon Jesurun during a press conference at the Colombian Soccer Federation headquarters in Bogota, Colombia, on March 31, 2016, has defended his reputation after reports that he signed a Champions League broadcasting contract in 2006 with an offshore registered marketing agency implicated last year in the FIFA bribery scandal.

ers" in a tender process conducted by an agency retained by UEFA.

"Moreover, as media themselves report, there is no indication whatsoever for any wrongdoings from neither UEFA nor myself in this matter," Infantino said.

According to the British reports, Cross Trading paid \$111,000 for the rights and sold them for a \$200,000 profit to the Telemazonas channel. There was no suggestion bribes or kickbacks were paid at any stage of the deals.

"The rights were awarded to Telemazonas/Cross Trading

because they made the highest offer on the market," UEFA said in a separate statement.

However, UEFA did acknowledge it gave inaccurate information last year when stating it had no commercial dealings with people and companies indicted in the United States federal case.

"At the time of our initial response we had not had the opportunity to check each and every one of our (thousands) of commercial contracts and so the answer given was initially incomplete," UEFA said.



OL'ACES

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minutes of the first half.

Ballers never looked back from thereon, as their other players also stepped up on offense in the second half.

Mangali paced Ballers with his 15 points, while Ken Viray and Pagarao added 13 each. Mark Ferrer and Chris Lilles also had double figures, recording 10 apiece,

while Mike Arciaga top-scored for the Sonics with his 15 markers.

First Game

Ballers 87— Mangali 15, Viray 13, Pagarao 13, Ferrer 10, Lilles 10, Sison 6, Borja 5, Tenorio 4, Villacrusis 3, Lauron 2.

Sonics 73— Arciaga 15, Aranda 11, Galarse 11, Rabasto 9, Espinosa 9, De Guzman 6, Dela Rosa 5, Fidelino 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-17, 53-30, 67-56, 87-73.

Second Game

Ol'Aces 105 — Pelisamen 18, Pua 14, Mendoza 11, Schmidts 10, Barcinas 10, Basa 10, Libuw 10, Babauta 8, Deleon Guerrero 8, Lizama 6.

BSI 69 — Santos 25, Esteves 16, Litulumar 14, Oyola 12, Suda 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-17, 48-32, 69-47, 105-69.

CK

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the win.

A.J. Lizama pitched last for the Bears and struck out four in the last 2.2 innings, while allowing only one hit from the 10 batters he faced. Jeffrey Lizama started on the mound for the Bears and gave up four hits and six runs, while fanning out four in 5.1 innings pitch before he was relieved by Giovanni Ayuyu.

With Jeffrey Lizama playing steady and the rest of the Bears' defense holding their ground, the Ol'Aces could not get the run they wanted. The Best Sunshine International-backed Ol'Aces had an on and off offensive game in the first six innings before

gaining their most runs (4) in the seventh.

Ben Jones Jr. had an RBI single in that four-run bottom of the seventh, while Kimo Angailen reached off a wild pitch and the two other runs came from a passed ball and a Bears error. However, that was it for the Ol'Aces as A.J. Lizama closed out for the Bears and secured the win. Lizama had two strikeouts at the bottom of the eight with his last leaving an Ol'Aces runner stranded at second. The Ol'Aces flied out for the first out in the eighth.

In the ninth, the Ol'Aces had a 1-2-3 inning with A.J. Lizama sparking a 1-3 putout play and later fanning out Juan Iguel Jr. The Ol'Aces flied out at shortstop earlier for the sec-

ond out.

Meanwhile, Art Man Titanium had a rousing debut in SBL after dominating the North Starz, 13-1.

Titanium got the win two innings early via the 10-run mercy rule.

Joe Palacios pitched for Titanium in four innings and allowed only two hits and one run, while striking out six. Manny Cabrera took over in the last three innings and gave up only one hit with no run.

Titanium scored three runs apiece in the first, second, and fourth inning, and tacked on four more in the third to set up the easy win, while the North Starz lit up the board only in the fourth inning with Tim Cruz making it home off a wild pitch.

Over 800 sign up for Hafa Adai 5K; Triple J hosts photo contest

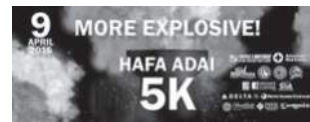
The 3rd Annual Pacific Islands Club (PIC) Saipan Hafa Adai 5K offers a colorful adventure for the more than 1,000 runners, walkers, joggers and strollers expected to hit the streets of San Antonio this Saturday to raise funds for the Northern Marianas Chapter of the American Red Cross.

More than 800 participants have already registered for this year's event, which will feature a photo contest with prizes from the Triple J family of companies. To enter the photo contest, visit the Triple J display car parked next to the stage at the PIC Hafa Adai 5K Fun Run and take a picture with the Triple J Fun Frame.

To submit an entry, simply "Like" the Triple J Motors Saipan Facebook page and tag your photo with #3J5K2016. Winners will be chosen by the amount of "Likes" received so be sure to share, share, share! The photo submission that receives the most "Likes" will win dinner for four at Tony Roma's, while second place will receive free Bumper-to-Bumper maintenance service from Triple J Motors and third place will receive a special gift from Triple J.

Registration begins at 6:30am, followed by a special Zumba session warm-up at 7am. After the 5K, which will begin at 7:30am, participants have the chance to walk away with over \$500 in cash and prizes during PIC's largest Rock, Paper, Scissors contest.

Since its inception, the PIC Hafa Adai 5K has raised \$16,000 for local non-profit



groups. Last year, the event raised \$10,000 for the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. This year, race proceeds will benefit the Northern Mariana Islands Chapter of the American Red Cross.

PIC Sports, Entertainment and Activities director, Glenn Policare launched the PIC Hafa Adai 5K in 2014 as a way to promote physical activity and raise funds for local organizations. The race has since become one of PIC Saipan's signature events.

While the Red Cross may be this year's beneficiary, PIC has pledged an additional \$1,500.00 in sporting equipment to be distributed to three local schools. According to event director Keoni Ichihara, the elementary, middle and high schools with the most paid participants in the PIC Hafa Adai 5K will take home the top prize.

"The PIC Hafa Adai 5K allows each and every student on Saipan to step up and represent their school," Ichihara said.

The elementary (grades 1-5), junior high/middle schools (grades 6-8) and high schools (grades 9-12) which have the most paid entries into the Hafa Adai 5K will earn their respective school some brand new sporting equipment. To date, more than 20 schools have registered participants into the 5K, including Agape Christian School, Dan Dan Middle School,

Eucon, Garapan Elementary School, Grace Christian Academy, Gregory T. Camacho Elementary School, Hopwood Junior High School, Kagman Elementary School, Kagman High School, Koblerville Elementary School, Marianas Baptist Academy, Marianas High School, Mount Carmel School, Oleai Elementary School, Saipan Community School, Saipan International School, Saipan Southern High School, San Vicente Elementary School, Seventh Day Adventist School, Tanapag Junior High School, and William S. Reyes Elementary School.

The 5K course will start and finish at PIC Saipan and will feature five different coloring stations along the Beach Road route. Participants are encouraged to wear white attire so the full effect of the coloring stations can be seen post-race. Volunteers will be celebrating each runner's arrival by greeting them with "holi powder," a biodegradable mixture of corn starch and food coloring.

Registration for the PIC Hafa Adai 5K is only \$10 and entry forms are available at Triple J Motors on Beach Road, the PIC lobby, Gold's Gym, Boarderline, NMI Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Marianas Visitors Authority. All completed entry forms must be turned in to the PIC front desk.

For more information, please contact Ichihara at 237-5147 or visit PIC's website www.picresorts.com/saipan/. (PR)

KANOA

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This Saturday, MPUnited will face Tan Holdings, while Paire and Kanoa will collide in the other match. Then on April 16, MP United and Kanoa will square off in a crucial game, while Tan Holdings and Paire will close out their spring assignments.

BOYS U14 Tan Holdings 2, MPU 1

Over at the Koblerville Elementary School Field, Tan Holdings nipped MPU.

John Michael Rojas knocked in the go-ahead goal for Tan Holdings, which tied MPU's 5-0-2 mark after the close win. MPU, however, is ahead in goals, 38-36, to win the tiebreak for first place in the team standings.

Oliver Lee tallied the lone goal for MPU, while Kirro Batino nailed the other shot for Tan Holdings.

Kanoa 6, Matansa 3

In the first game in the division, Kanoa downed Matansa.

Ian Karl Maniago and Jhoey Noble registered two goals each for Kanoa, which drew one goal apiece from Sebastian Manabat and Kirt Andon. Kanoa improved its record to 4-0-3 for fourth place in the team standings.

Matansa is at fifth place with its 3-0-4 mark and got one goal apiece from Razeff Altamirano, Miket Johnson, and Iverson Santos.

Paire 10, Shirley's 0

Paire posted the most lopsided win in their group after crushing Shirley's.

Paire shares Kanoa's record, but took third place because it has more goals, 38-29. Blake Mister added three to Paire's total, while Raffy Lee and Ken Song contributed two each. Other scorers for Paire were Kaden Church, Robbie Schorr, and Jamin Elliot.

GIRLS U15 Shirley's 6, Matansa 2

Shirley's kept the top spot in its division after romping past Matansa at the San Antonio

Middle School Field.

Theriza Millare had a hat-trick for Shirley's, which owns a 6-0-1 mark to lead Kanoa (5-0-1), Matansa (4-0-3), MPU (3-0-4), Tan Holdings (1-0-6), and Paire (1-0-5). Jeralyn Castillo added two goals, while Jasmine Phan made one.

Sunny Woo and Bernadette Horey scored for Matansa.

Kanoa 2, Tan Holdings 0

Kanoa shadows Shirley's in the team standings after beating Tan Holdings and getting its fifth win.

Joyce drilled the pair of goals for Kanoa, bringing the team's total to 41—the most scored so far in the girls U15 division.

MP United 5, Paire 2

In a make-up game, MP United defeated Paire.

Maaya Sato and Gillian Vilagomes gave MPU two goals apiece, while Grace Choi logged one. Maria Castro and Patricia Nicole Surima hit the board for the cellar dweller Paire.

Pacific Ocean Cup V

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



A Vivid Blue player dribbles and is chased by a Shirley's FC defender during their game in the Pacific Ocean Cup V last Sunday at the Garapan Elementary School Field.



Vivid Blue and MP United Blue players shake hands before the start of their game.



MP United Blue's Rintaro Miyawaki, left, battles a Vivid Blue player for possession.



Vivid Blue and MP United Blue players ward each other off as they fight for the ball.



A Shirley's defender, third right, tries to steal the ball from a Vivid Blue player.



Vivid Blue and Shirley's FC players run after the ball.



Paire FC's Casey Chambers catches the ball during their game against Vivid Blue.



A Paire defender steps in on defense, as a Vivid Blue player goes for a kick.



Paire's Kaden Church, left, dribbles in front of a Vivid Blue defender.



**Timberwolves
shock Warriors
in overtime**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**New slide rule
helps Rays hold
off Blue Jays**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016

Kanoa, MPU stay in title hunt



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kanoa Football Club and MP United FC remained in contention for the season championship in the co-ed U12 division of the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League after easing past their respective foes last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

MP United shut down Paire, 7-0, to keep the top spot in the four-team field. Rintaro Miyawaki scored four goals and Andrew Chung, Dylan Kim, and Rohan Basnet added one apiece for MP United, which now has a 6-0-1 win-draw-loss record.

Kanoa, on the other hand, holds the second-best mark in the division at 5-0-2 following its 9-3 rout of Tan Holdings. Brian Lubao led the victory with his hat-trick, while his brother Ian and Paulynn Grace Joyce chipped in two goals each. Jim Kurt Maniago and Wayne Lizama contributed

one goal apiece. Angelo Pulido knocked in the two goals for Tan Holdings, which got one from Christian Puri.

Only Kanoa and MP United are battling for the spring championship, as Tan Holdings



fell to a 2-0-5 mark and Paire dropped to a dismal 1-0-6 slate with only two playing weekend left in the three-round robin season.

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Ol'Aces, Ballers blow out opponents

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Ol'Aces and Ballers outgunned their respective foes in the 2016 Island-wide Men's Basketball League last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ballers clobbered the Sonics in the first game, 87-73, while the Ol'Aces pounced on Best Sunshine International in the second match, 105-69.

The blowout win was a good welcome for Kobee Mendoza, who is on vacation and suited up for the Ol'Aces for his first game on Saipan after leaving the island to study and play basketball in the mainland. Mendoza broke into double figures in his debut in the league, making 11 as he and the Ol'Aces ran a high-octane offense to crush BSI.

Freddie Pelisamen led the Ol'Aces' run and gun game, firing 18 points, while his six other teammates also finished in twin digits.

Pelisamen missed the first quarter of the match, which



The Ol'Aces' Gino Libuw is up against Best Sunshine International's Fred Litulumar, center, and Jose Oyola, right, during the fourth quarter of their game in the men's island-wide caging last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



saw the Ol'Aces ahead by only 8, 25-17. When he arrived in the second canto, the Ol'Aces shifted on a high gear and peppered BSI with shots from all corners. The Ol'Aces went on to post their biggest lead at 38 points, 102-64, and Mendoza capped the team's dominance of BSI with a triple.

In the other game, Ballers also broke loose in the second frame, turning a 22-17 lead to a 53-30 halftime spread. Lerio Pagarao sparked the break-away, drilling 6 of the Ballers' first 7 markers in the second period, while Elgene Mangali finished what the former started, tallying 7 in the closing

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
BSI Ol'Aces' Darion Jones warms up for their game against the CK Bears in the SBL last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

CK Bears win debut vs BSI Ol'Aces

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Chalan Kano Bears prevailed in their season debut game in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League after outclassing the BSI Ol'Aces, 13-10, last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Starting shortstop A.J. Lizama led the Bears' victory, as he went 3-for-5 at the plate and scored three RBIs

and two runs. Jose Lizama also hit 3-for-5 and added two runs, while J.P. Lizama was 2-for-4 and contributed two RBIs.

The Bears after failing to reach home at the top of the first inning, scored in the next five, including a three-run production each in the fourth and fifth, to build enough cushion and then shut down the Ol'Aces in the last two to preserve their lead and escape with

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